



Love Letter

No. 211

Love Token Society Newsletter

February 2004



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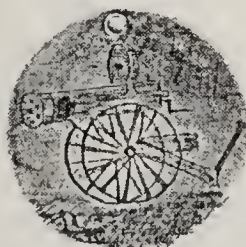


Wartime Love Tokens

By Carol Decker

"Make love not war", a saying popularized in the 1960's during the Vietnam War, may be just as appropriate for WW I and WW II when considering the love tokens produced from these periods. Although many believe that the crafting of love tokens ended by the turn of the century, or just after with the coin mutilation act of 1909, the tradition was actually carried on in one of the most unlikely places, soldiers during wartime.

Not surprisingly there were love tokens made during the Civil War, but most are not militarily related. The only ones distinguished as war-related are examples of dog tags engraved on coins and an occasional coin engraved with C.S.A. (Confederate States of America). However, beware that there are more copies than real ones. Pictured is a very unusual love token depicting a Gatling gun with its typical features of spoke wagon wheels, hand crank, and multiple shot firing barrels. This early machine gun was designed by Richard Gatling during the Civil War.



The Gatling gun was patented during the Civil War. Reverse is engraved with IIN Jr. (Quarter size coin.)

WW I was the first war to make extensive use of trench warfare and the wartime art made by soldiers was aptly named "Trench Art." Unspent shell casings were forged into decorative vases and occasionally lamps, with the surface of the bronze transformed through repouse techniques into design motifs such as birds, flowers, angels, dates, or abstract designs of scrollwork or geometric shapes. In addition to this more commonly known art form of WW I, there is the lesser-known tradition of engraved coins.



Unused artillery shell casings were transformed into vases and other decorative items at the conclusion of WW I. Pictured are vases with angel, bird, and flower motifs. This art form is generally referred to as "Trench Art."

Engraved coins of WW I are found in several different forms. One is a gift to a friend, loved one, or fellow soldier, usually bearing the names of both the recipient and giver. Another type is the dog tag, with an engraved name and serial number or unit number. The more decorative engraved coins commemorate dates and places complete with pictorial images. These were most likely used as souvenirs and chronicled where and when a soldier was stationed. One unusual example has Bombardier B. Reid of the Royal Field Artillery, serial number 966679, stationed in France in 1916, Solonica and Egypt in 1917, and Belgium in 1918. At the center is a pictorial landscape of palm trees and pyramids, engraved on a silver dollar sized 20 Piastre Egyptian coin dated 1917.

WW I souvenir chronicling the stations of Bombardier B. Reid. Engraved on a 20 Piastre Egyptian coin.



continued on page 3

Notes from the Secretary-Treasurer

I request that all members who desire to renew their dues to send in their payment of \$12.50 now. A form is enclosed in this newsletter. I would also appreciate a note if you do not intend to renew.

Kyle Knapp has assumed the duties of webmaster. Thank you Kyle. Our website URL has changed to www.lovetokensociety.net.

Please visit our website at:
www.lovetokensociety.net



Love Tokens at a Local Club Auction

by Ernie Turnes

At the Baltimore Coin Club meetings I consign eight to ten items in the auction. I often include one love token, as there is a fellow LTS members there- and there's always the chance that a non-love token collector will see a piece that he wants.

At the February 5th meeting I consigned four love tokens- one with the name Birt, one with the name Grace, one engraved AG and 19/3 1894, and one with CEW on one side and 1885 on the other. I expected only one to sell. As it turns out, three sold. Grace was the name of a member's late mother-in-law and he won that love token. The piece with the initials and date went to a guest, who came to the meeting with her husband, also a guest. Before the meeting I explained the meeting format and encouraged them to participate. As part of our discussion I mentioned that I collect love tokens, explained what they are, showed her one I had in my pocket and said that there were four in the auction. I learned later that the piece that she bid on and won has her mother's initials- AG. The two-sided piece went to the other LTS member, Bill Stratemeyer.

I tell this story to encourage members to consign love tokens at auctions at local club meetings. It may result in others developing an interest in our hobby.

Financial Statement

General Funds

Balance as of December 1, 2003 \$4,995.02

Receipts

New Members	\$50.00
Membership Dues 2004	\$650.00
Book Sale	\$100.00
Interest (Bank Account) 11/8/03	\$1.96
Interest (Bank Account) 12/31/03	\$2.19
Yahoo Domain Name Refund	\$35.00

Total Receipts

\$839.15

Subtotal

\$5,834.17

Expenses

Check #1053 - Robert C. Newhouse	
Graphics - \$75.00	
Stamps - \$74.00	
Kinko's - \$185.24	
Misc. Postage - \$22.14	\$356.38
Check #1054 - Kyle Knapp	
Domain Name	\$35.00
Cash - Postage	\$13.00

Total Expenses

\$404.38

Balance as of February 3, 2004

\$5,429.79

Permanent Fund

Audubon Savings and Loan Association

1 year certificate of deposit \$655.55

Membership Report

Membership As of December 1, 2003	189
New Members	4
Membership As of February 3, 2004	193

- Sidney R. Gale - Secretary /Treasurer



Welcome New Members!

#1070	Earle J. Engle P.O. Box 419251 Kansas City, MO 64141	#1071	Karen Linton 5425 Vicksburg Circle Birmingham, AL 35210-3042
#1072	Hettie Hall 134 Hall Rd. Eolia, MO 63344	#1073	George Decker 5145 Admiral Pl. Sarasota, FL 34231

Wartime Love Tokens *continued*

There is quite a variety available for world coin love token collectors from a war that spanned three continents. The largest quantity seem to be engraved on French coins, but U.S., German, Tanzania/German E. Africa, Iran, and Egyptian examples are also in the author's collection. There are probably even more countries available from this period. Most are engraved on silver coins ranging in dimension from dime to dollar size, but a few copper and brass coins were used also.

A love token on a French 1917 two Francs coin marks the end of the war. Pictured is a map with the towns of Lorry and Marieulle. Near these town names are the engraved notations "Last shot", "Death Valley", and "10.56 am 11.11.18." After WWI, there seems to have been a gap in the production of love tokens, but the tradition emerged again during WW II and was named "Pacific War Art." Like "Trench Art", it refers to items made during wartime by soldiers in the pacific theater. Jewelry was often made from engraved coins, but there are also other forms of non-coin related war souvenir jewelry. Lucite and aluminum from downed aircraft were transformed into adornments, and occasionally the Lucite was combined with engraved coins.

WW I map of the last shot fired, 10:56 a.m., 11.11.18. Engraved on a 1917 2 Francs.



After the attack on Pearl Harbor, a great sense of patriotism swept the country. To show support it became very fashionable to wear patriotic jewelry with designs of stars, stripes, red white and blue colors, wings, propeller blades, and actual military insignia. This jewelry was later named "sweetheart jewelry" because most often it was given by military personnel to their sweethearts back home. Manufacturers in the U.S. produced a multitude of designs. The most popular jewelry was the pin, perhaps because it could be worn near the heart, something like a "fraternity pin".

"Pacific War Art" love token jewelry is akin to sweetheart jewelry, but is even more sentimental, since it came directly from the loved one on the war scene. Of course not every soldier was gifted in this art, many had to find someone else to do the work. In fact, there has been speculation that some prisoners of war with engraving skills were paid to make these souvenirs.

Most of the love tokens from WW II were made into jewelry in the form of pins and bracelets, and occasionally pendants. This contrasts with the love tokens from WW I, which were generally "pocket pieces," with only a few having loops added for jewelry use. During WW II, Australian coins were the dominant host coin, with U.S. coins second in popularity.

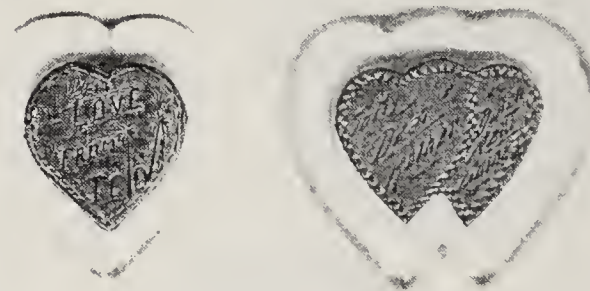


Tropical scene with palm trees, hut, boat, water, and engraved "Phillipines 1945." Host coin is a 1944 Australian 1 florin.

"Pacific War Art" love tokens fall primarily into a presentation/gift category with the recipients name as well as the givers name engraved, and some even have romantic messages. There are few examples of dog tags and occasional coins that commemorate a location and date. It was also popular during this period to cut the coin into a heart shape, and some were embedded in Lucite.

It is curious that love tokens endured in times of combat. On the battlefield, soldiers do not have access to stores to shop for gifts and mementos. Thus, like folk artists they used readily available or found objects. Coins are abundant and a foreign coin from ones travels makes a good souvenir. With literally money and no place to spend it, combined with plentiful time between military engagements, the outcome was engraved coins. "Pacific War Art" and "Trench Art" are poignant reminders of our troubled 20th century. They remind us of the loneliness and longing for home and loved ones of our brave young men fighting around the world for all of us on the home front.

Cut down Australian shilling and florin coins embedded in Lucite. Engraved "Love from Ted" and "To my dear mother", "Dutch New Guinea."

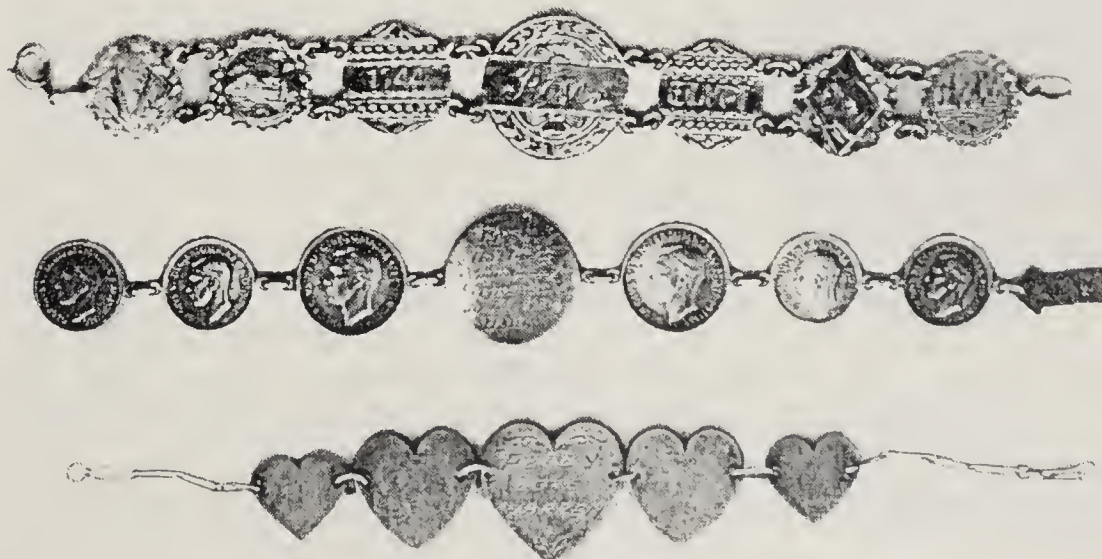


Love token bracelets from WW II from top to bottom:

top: "1944," "Rose," "Egypt," "V," pyramids, horse, and Islamic architecture are engraved on U.S., G.B. and Egyptian coins

middle: "Rose The links symbolically represent my ties to you. Harry" is engraved on an Australian shilling dated 1942. Non-engraved three and six pence Australian coins make up the rest of the bracelet.

bottom: "Peggy Love Warren" is engraved on a cut down 1942 Walking Liberty half dollar. Heart-shaped Washington quarters and Mercury dimes surround the central engraving.



Tokens of Affection Popular for Lovers

by Jeff Starck Reprinted from *Coin Values*, Volume 2, Number 2



The name Mary was elaborately engraved on the reverse of an 1879 Morgan dollar and a pin was attached on the obverse so it could be worn as jewelry. (From the Fred Grater Collection.)



An 1884 half eagle reverse was used to make a love token displaying a family's coat of arms. The central device is a shield with a Maltese cross and three globes surrounded by trees. Above the shield is a knight in armor. (Image courtesy of Bowers and Merena Galleries)

Valentine's Day was born more than 1,700 years ago, named for a saint martyred for performing marriages illegally. But it's still the day many people choose to express their amorous affection for their significant other.

That expression takes many forms, ranging from gifts of the repulsive (power tools, fast-food dinners) to the romantic (spa indulgences, Paris). Flowers, candy and chocolate may be safe bets for the woman you love, but it wasn't always that way. Love tokens, engraved coins often initialed, were widely popular after the Civil War, from 1876 to 1893, according to Dr. Sol Taylor, author of *The Standard Guide to Love Tokens*, published in 1983. Valentine's Day was also becoming widely popular in the United States after the war.

"The" St. Valentine, for whom the day is named, could be any one of three saints named Valentine or Valentinus, according to www.howstuffworks.com/valentine.htm. During that time, few men were joining the Roman Army, which was involved in many bloody and unpopular campaigns. Emperor Claudius II outlawed marriage, believing single men were more apt to join the army.

St. Valentine defied this order and secretly wed many couples. He was arrested and was sentenced to death. While in prison, he befriended the jailer's daughter. Legend has it St. Valentine sent her the first "Valentine" Feb. 14, A.D. 270, the day of his execution, writing "From your Valentine."

Early Valentines were made by hand in many different fashions, using colored paper and inks. Esther Howland produced the first commercial American valentine in the 1840s. Later, Joyce Hall began the paper-emotions empire Hallmark, becoming the leader in greeting cards in 1915.

While technology has expanded the ways to articulate your love to include musical musings and scratch-and-sniff smells, the love token has almost been forgotten.

Love tokens are made when one or more sides of a coin are planed or polished flat to create a clean engraving surface. Initials, messages and, rarely, scenes are carved into the surface. It was an artistic- and relatively cheap- way to express love.

Most often, initials and monograms are the extent of the carver's skill, but sometimes

scenes such as where the lovers met or significant dates also appear.

Love tokens date as far back as the Colonial days, when they were used to commemorate births, deaths, marriages and anniversaries in what would become the United States. They are believed to have begun in England, and were used by sailors, who hoped their sweethearts would remember them.

According to Milana K. Bizic, in Taylor's book, about half of all love tokens appear on Seated Liberty dimes, and many date 1876. The ease of morphing silver and the low cost of dimes, as well as the nation's centennial, contributed to this.

Engravings range from primitive pin-scratched pieces to ore elaborate tokens where several colors of gold were overlaid and intertwined. Love tokens aren't limited to small U.S. coinage. Numerous foreign issues and several denominations of gold coins have been used to make love tokens.

Love tokens were often holed to hang as a necklace or placed on a bracelet. In some cases, women collected the tokens avariciously.

Mutilation of U.S. coinage was outlawed in 1909, but the popularity of love tokens was already on the wane. They remain a relic of the past, an interesting piece of folklore about the language of love. And they are highly and avidly collected today.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, there are no coin sales in this issue of the Love Letter.

They will return in the next issue.



Tugging at the Heart: Engraved love tokens cement human bonds

by Paul Gilkes

Reprinted from *Coin World*, Monday, February 16, 2004

Valentine's Day evokes many memories and traditions. Not all of the memories are pleasant. Seventy-five years ago, on Feb. 14, 1929, seven nattily dressed men, six of them gangsters, were lined up, faced against the cement walls of a Chicago warehouse and machine-gunned to death in what was to become known as the St. Valentine's Day Massacre.

Valentine's Day traditions are generally more pleasant: exchanging cards in grade school, sending flowers to a loved one or creating a love token.

St. Valentine's Day and the means by which it has been celebrated are centuries old. Among these celebratory means are love tokens—coins and other similar objects engraved with a message of love or admiration from one person to another.

A love token generally is made by planing one or both sides of a coin, medal, or other similar object, then engraving ornate, intertwined initials, names, or a message. Pieces that are more ornate have been fashioned into watches, pins, bracelets, necklaces, or other body ornaments to be carried by the recipient.

The love token, although initiated during the American Colonial period in the late 1700s, reached its peak in the U.S. during the Victorian Era and experienced a rebirth during World War I and again in World War II, before quickly disappearing.

Now, such pieces are considered collectible. Collectors of these tokens of affection often look for the intricate designs, or names and initials of loved ones to claim some far-removed connection to the piece.

The earliest pieces were engraved to mark births, marriages, military service, and other significant family milestones.

While examples of love tokens can be found as early as 16th century England, according to Lloyd L. Entenmann in his 1992 book, *Love Tokens as Engraved Coins*, the custom became popular in the mid-19th century. The earlier British love tokens are predominantly copper, as the halfpenny and penny were common circulating coins in the 1600s and 1700s. Frequently, both sides were planed, but more often, only one side was engraved. Sailors on long voyages would while away the arduous hours engraving or "pinpricking" coins.

Two Australian coins, one dated 1944, form this love token pieces converted into a pinback badge. What serves as the bar is engraved AUSTRALIA and the coin cut into a heart reads JEAN AND WALTER 1945. The coins are encased in windshield material from a downed aircraft.



Pinpricking employed the use of a sharp metal instrument before engraving became the vogue. Pinpricking involved the use of a pin or other similar sharpened device and poking a series of holes close together into the coin to represent an image and or inscription.

Engraving encompasses the use of a sharpened knife or tool and the application of varying amounts of pressure to move or remove metal to produce the desired devices and messages. The quality of the love token depended on one's artistic skill and the ability to maintain the sharpness of the implement.

An engraved coin's surfaces were usually planed by using varying cuts of files, from coarse down to fine, and removing final scratches with buffing cloth. The physical design of the graver— a sharp engraving tool— the amount of pressure and the angle at which the pressure was applied determined the depth of the engraving.

HISTORY OF ST. VALENTINE.

Historians differ on whom the Feb. 14 holiday is named after. St. Valentine could be one of three saints named Valentine or Valentinus.

In ancient Rome, Feb. 14 was a holiday set aside to honor Juno, queen of the Roman gods and goddesses, who was also known as the goddess of women and marriage. The Feast of Lupercalia began the following day.

One of the customs of young boys and girls— whose lives were otherwise kept sepa-

rate— allowed a boy to draw out of a jar the name of a girl whose name had been written down and placed into a jar with the names of other girls. For the rest of the festival, whichever girl was selected would be partnered with the boy who picked her name.

The pairing could last beyond the festival, and possibly bloom into love and subsequent marriage.

Some researchers, according to www.pictureframes.co.uk/pages/saint_valentine.htm, conclude the St. Valentine's Day celebration traces its origins to St. Valentine, a Roman who was martyred for refusing to renounce Christianity. St. Valentine was executed on Feb. 14, A.D. 269 (or A.D. 270, depending on the reference), the same day that had been dedicated to the love lotteries on the eve of the Festival of Lupercalia.

Other stories suggest that St. Valentine served as a priest at the temple during the reign of Emperor Claudius II. Because few Roman men were joining the army during a period of unpopular and bloody military campaigns, Claudius banned marriages. St. Valentine defied Claudius' order and secretly united many couples, actions for which he was arrested and eventually sentenced to death.

Legend further suggests that St. valentine left behind a farewell note for the jailer's daughter, who had befriended him, and signed it "From Your Valentine."

No matter which of these stories is correct, if any, Feb. 14 eventually became a recognized holiday.

"In 496 A.D., Pope Gelasius set aside Feb. 14 to honor St. Valentine," according to the Pictureframes.co.uk Web site. "Gradually, Feb. 14 became the date for exchanging love messages and St. Valentine became the patron saint of lovers."

U.S. APPEAL

In the United States, Esther Howland is credited with producing and sending the first commercial American valentine sometime in the 1840s.

Valentine's Day became popular in the United States around the time of the Civil War, and very soon thereafter, engraved coins and fancy Valentines became the fashionable way to proclaim one's love. Love tokens as engraved coins made their U.S. debut in the 1850s. Since copper cents were in short supply, silver coins, because of the ease in engraving them, were used.

Most often used for the love token was the Seated Liberty dime, although examples are found on higher denomination silver coins, as well as gold coins.

Many love tokens have a hole puerced at the top, or a loop or loops soldered on, posibly to suspend on a chain around the neck of the beloved, or for hooking onto a ring or bracelet, or to be sewed on a piece of clothing.

The smallest love tokens known on United States coins are on silver half dimes. Silver quarter dollars are much less common. More than 50 percent of U.S. love tokens are believed to have been made from dimes. Occasionally a half dollar or silver dollar was so inscribed, but most young men of the period seemed unwilling to splurge more than a dime on their current fancy.

"Perhaps the ultimate love token, however, is one where initials are cut out of gold (often gold coins) and overlaid by the silver solder technique onto the smoothed out surface of the coin," Milana K. Bizic wrote in the March 1982 issue of the TAMS JOurnal, the official publication of the Token and Medal Society.

According to Sol Taylor in his book, *The Standard Guide to Love Tokens*, love tokens as engraved coins reached their zenith in the United States between the Centennial Exposition of 1876 and 1909. Engravers even set up booths ate the World Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1892 to 1893 to personally engrave coins for fair-goers. The federal government reportedly banned the production of love tokens for a time in the early 20th century.

While an observer cannot detect a run on dimes in the 1880s that could be traced to love token manufacture, it has been said that so many teenage girls in 1882 were engraving coins that the U.S. Mint had to increase production to offset the demand.

Love token manufacturing experienced resurgence duringwartime, especially during World War I and World War II. The practice seems to have disappeared, although the collecting of such engraved pieces remains active.



Two Australian coins, one dated 1944, form this love token pieces converted into a pinback badge. What serves as the bar is engraved AUSTRALIA and the coin cut into a heart reads JEAN AND WALTER 1945. The coins are encased in windshield material from a downed aircraft.

Not Just for Girls

Engraved coins were sometimes made into handsome jewelry for men.

Reprinted fom *Numismatist*, February, 2004

When one considers that the average salary of a man was 10 cents a day in the late 1800s, love tokens- regular circulating coins ground down on one or both sides and engraved by hand with initials, dates, names or designs- were more than just symbols of affection. Some represented a financial sacrifice or, often hard work.

But men were not the only ones to create love tokens for their sweethearts. In addition to tokens made into pins, earrings, bracelets and necklaces, love tokens can be found in the form of cuff links, button covers or watch fobs, and carry a man's name.

The engraved coins were in vogue in Great Britain by the late 1700s. Many were made by convicts sent to Australia or Tasmania for loved ones left behind, with typical engravings such as "When you see this, remember me" and "Forget me not." These small, Victorian-era treasures came into fashion in America around the time of the Civil War. In a time of frenzied gift-buying, it is stunning to think of the time and effort that went into these sentimental gifts.

When our ancestors wanted to say "I love you," they tried to create something unique and beautiful.



This silver button cover engraved with the letter "R" was made from an 1854 Seated Liberty dime.



A Token of Love

by Carol Harmes – Reprinted from *Metropolitan Coin Club of Atlanta Newsletter*, February 2002

With February upon us, Cupid's wings start to flutter with thoughts of love. A journey back in time reveals an age old tradition called the love token. It all began with a coin removed from circulation and engraved. The custom originated in England as early as the 17th century and spread to America almost two centuries later.

Loving hands smoothed and engraved these coins into miniature works of art with images of hearts, birds, people, ships, or landscapes. Writing decorated them with initials, names, dates, and secret messages. Words and images often held some special meaning between the giver and the recipient, a secret which added to the sentiments embedded in time and space. Now, a century or more later, there is no way to interpret their meaning unless a family story has been passed along with the coins. This uncertainty seems only to increase the romance associated with these tokens of love.

The term love token was used in the U.S. The earlier English examples are simply called "engraved coins." In England, the production of engraved coins began to wane in the early to mid 1800s, while at the same time the practice was just beginning in the United States. Early examples in America date to the 1850s and 1860s, but it was not until the 1870s that love tokens became very popular.

By the late 1870s silver jewelry was very fashionable. Engraved coins were incorporated into many forms of jewelry for both men and women and included bracelets, necklaces, earrings, pins, watch fobs, cuff links, and stick-pins. The silver dime was the most common denomination for love tokens, followed by the half dime and the quarter.

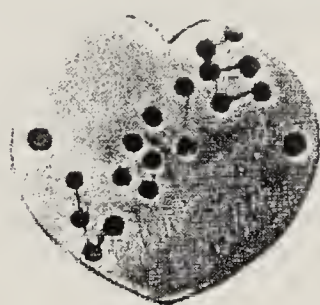
It has been suggested that these sizes were popular because the scale worked well in jewelry.

By the late 1890s silver jewelry had lost much of its popularity and, correspondingly, interest in love tokens declined. A concentration of 1892 and 1893 dated Barber dimes suggests that love tokens may have been engraved at the Columbian Exposition. It is a long-held opinion that many love tokens were engraved at fairs by travelling craftsmen. Barber dime love tokens dated after the Columbian Exposition are rather scarce and indicate the decline in popularity for engraved coins generally.

With Victorian workmanship and demand

for engraved coins at an end, one might think this would be the end of the love token. However, WW II brought a new period of sentimentality. Sweetheart jewelry and patriotic souvenirs for those back home emerged as a cottage industry. Military insignias were combined with jewelry and given usually to girlfriends and mothers by servicemen. A category of sweetheart jewelry known as "Pacific War Art" was made by hand using found or readily available materials. Coins from countries visited by servicemen were also engraved and sent home to loved ones as souvenirs. Victorian details and workmanship are replaced with a new modernism.

Hand engraving is now almost a lost art. Engraved coins remain a part of our past to be handed down as heirlooms. Love token collectors have served an important role in preserving a lost folk art and bringing it to the attention of others. This should insure the



Love New Guinea 1944:

This coin has plastic, possibly from a Jeep tail light, embedded in the coin to spell LOVE.

Dime and half-dime love tokens:
left: Couple walking on beach engraved Mat
middle: Joined hands with hearts engraved Annie
right: Two hearts with bow engraved C and P.



2004 Annual Dues

It's time to submit your annual dues (2004) payment for the Love Token Society. Dues are \$12.50 per calendar year. If you wish to pay for more than one year you may do so at this time as well. Please clip the section below and mail it as soon as possible with your cash, check or money order to:

Sid Gale, P.O. Box 970, Mandeville, LA 70470

Looking forward to your continued membership and support of LTS.

Sincerely, Sid Gale

If you are paying by check and your address information is current there is no need to fill in the information below. Just fill in below if there are any changes or a correction needs to be made to your address label.

Member # _____ Do you want a Directory Yes _____ No _____

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Check/M.O. number _____ Date of check _____

Database entry date _____

Comments: _____

Check out the Love Token Society Website at www.lovetokensociety.net



Love Token Society

Homepage	History	Jewelry	Gallery	Meaning	Pricing	Membership
<p>Welcome</p> <p>The Love Token Society is a group of over 200 collectors of old coins such as this one that have had something special engraved on them. These coins are called love tokens.</p> <p>What are love tokens? Through the years lovers have chosen a variety of different trinkets and charms as "tokens of love" to express their love or affection to someone special in their lives. Some of the more popular were thimbles, pin cushions, rings, and carved spoons. During the Victorian period the ever popular valentine card was introduced. This period also marked the peak of popularity for using engraved coins as love tokens.</p> <p>Love Tokens such as the example to the right are coins that were taken from circulation and engraved with something special on them. They are referred to as love tokens because most were made for a special occasion and presented to the receiver as a gesture of love and / or affection. They were most popular here in the United States during the period commencing shortly after the Civil War until the early 1890's.</p>						



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Love Letter

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Dr. Robert C. Newhouse
5840 Tuttle Cove Road
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Love Letter Layout/Design
Mary Hammel
Manhattan, KS

Hebrew Love Tokens

By Simcha Kuritzky, reprinted from *Numismatist*, October 2003

One of the disadvantages of living in the "Information Age" is that you get the impression there is nothing new to collect or research. Of course, that represents an attitude, not a fact. You can stumble across a new area of numismatic expertise if you leave yourself sufficiently open to it. So it was with me and Hebrew love tokens, or engraved coins.

Coins have been engraved for a variety of reasons: satire, souvenir, talisman, or memento of a loved one. Only the latter can truly be called a "love token," and these are the most common pieces, typically smoothed on one side and engraved with someone's initials or name on a silver or gold coin of 1850-1910. Host coins generally were from the United States or the British Empire, though some pieces show up from Germany and the Low Countries. Hence inscriptions are in the Roman (English) alphabet; those in non-Roman letters are quite rare.

Tokens bearing Hebrew letters would have been engraved for a special reason: Hebrew is revered by Jews as the language of the Bible, and it came to be respected by many Christians and pagans as well. A typical love token indicates a desire to bring two souls together by a tangible gift; a Hebrew love token indicates a desire to bring one's soul closer to God or divine forces.

Although every love token is unique, the inscriptions on them are not. The only Hebrew inscription I have seen on multiple coins is the letter heh, usually on U.S. dimes and gold dollars. This single letter stands for one of God's names, and it appeared on Western European amulets a century ago.

The Bible uses many names for God, but considered the holiest is the Tetragrammaton, the name of four letters—yud heh vov heh. After the Temple was destroyed by

the Romans in 70 C.E., the rabbis of the talmud declared that only the High Priest had known the proper pronunciation, and even he spoke it only once a year. Pious Jews often refer to it simply as HaShem ("the Name"), and often write it as just the initial letter heh.

Over the years, I've purchased half a dozen such tokens. One of them is modeled after a true love token—in addition to a large heh, this type 1 gold dollar, struck between 1849 and 1854, is inscribed on the reverse with small, cursive initials I.A.L. and the date 1915. Perhaps it was intended as a birth commemorative or as an amulet to protect a newborn.

U.S. Type 1 gold dollar (struck between 1849 and 1854) with initials I.A.L. and the date 1915



I have seen only one other true love token with Hebrew, a \$3 gold piece (minted from 1854 to 1889) mounted in a large, gold bezel. The reverse was polished and engraved with Yeverekhekha HaShem Vayishmerekha ("God will bless you and guard you"), the opening verse of the Priestly Benediction (Numbers 6:24). Based on the inscription, the recipient probably was the daughter of a koheyn, the priestly family descended from Aaron. Two letter yuds represent the name of God, a substitution that has been used by Jews for centuries. In the center are the initials E and I, superimposed and ornate. Below is the date 1892 and VON B & J.S. ("Von" is the German word for "from.") Many Jews who arrived in the United States in the middle of the 19th century spoke German, so B & J.S. likely were the commissioners of this piece.

continued on page 3

Notes from the Secretary-Treasurer

Thank you very much to the members who have mailed in their annual dues. I will be mailing individual invoices to those who have not. This will be the final newsletter to those who have not paid by the next publication.

Many of you have included notes with your checks stating that you look forward to receiving the Love Letter and that you appreciate the work and effort that goes into it. On your behalf, I extend your appreciation and thanks to Bob Newhouse and Mary Hammel for the design and editing of the newsletter as well as Barbara Newhouse for help with the labels and mailing, etc.

Additionally, thank you Steve Tompkins for conducting the love token sales and Carol for your wonderful articles each month. I must add thanks to Ernie Turnes also for his frequent contributions.



Please visit our website at:

www.lovetokensociety.net



Wanted Love Tokens on Bust Coins

I'm assembling a love token type set (one on each denomination/series). Amongst those I need are several Capped Bust coins- half dime, quarter, and half dollar. The engraving can be on either side, as long as the unengraved side is clearly that of a Bust coin. If any members have any of these and are willing to trade or sell, I would appreciate hearing from them. Thanks, in advance.

Ernie Turnes
eturnes@juno.com
(410) 879-8983

Financial Statement

General Funds

Balance as of February 3, 2004

\$5,429.79

Receipts

New Members	\$100.00
Membership Dues 2004	\$437.50
Book Sale	\$53.00
Interest (Bank Account)	\$4.37

Total Receipts

\$594.87

Subtotal

\$6,024.66

Expenses

Check #1055 - Robert C. Newhouse, editor	
Graphics - \$50.00	
Stamps - \$111.00	
Kinko's - \$229.00	
Misc. Postage - \$7.30	\$398.20
Check #1056 - USPS Misc. Postage	\$11.00

Total Expenses

\$409.20

Balance as of April 1, 2004

\$5,615.46

Permanent Fund

Audubon Savings and Loan Association

1 year certificate of deposit

\$655.55

Membership Report

Membership As of February 3, 2004	193
New Members	8
Membership As of April 1, 2004	201

- Sidney R. Gale - Secretary /Treasurer



Welcome New Members!

#1074	D.E. Bryan P.O. Box 594 Kasilof, AK 99610-0594	#1078	Jerry Gasiorowski P.O. Box 193 Jersey Shore, PA 17740
#1075	Toby Fitzkee 5765-V Burke Center Pkwy. Burke, VA 22015-2233	#1079	Judy Oberkrom 3696 W. 129th Place Leawood, KS 66209
#1076	Pierre Oldham P.O. Box 1416 Asheboro, NC 27204-1416	#1080	Don Noe 38 Oakwood Way West Windsor, NJ 08550
#1077	Brian Bomer 365 N. Harmony Dr. Napoleon, OH 43545	#1081	Jason Michelson 415 Howard Street Petoskey, MI 49770

Hebrew Love Tokens *continued*



A mid-19th century U.S. \$3 gold piece may have been engraved for the daughter of a priestly family descended from Aaron.

One particularly striking love token I bought on the Internet is a gold 1909 Indian Head quarter eagle (\$21/2) with a pin soldered to the reverse. The obverse is unchanged; on the reverse, the name Shaday is engraved and filled with the blue enamel. Shaday first appears in Genesis 17:1 when God makes His covenant with Avram. The name also is used in blessings and requests for offspring and good harvests. It has long been considered a powerful protection against attackers—human and demon—and is placed on the mezuzah, a small, decorative box holding Biblical verses placed on door frames per Deuteronomy 6:9. The name is engraved on the inside, or hidden area, of the pin; apparently the owner didn't want anyone to know he or she was wearing an amulet!

The name of the protector Shaday engraved and enamelled on a 1909 U.S. \$2 1/2 made into a pin



My other love token with the name Shaday is the first Hebrew-engraved coin I bought. A very long and complicated inscription is engraved on the reverse of an 1866 Gothic florin of Great Britain. Around the top, the inscription begins with Shaday; included twice is Ehvi Valar, which could be the notarikon (initial letters) of Genesis 2:10 "[A river watered] the garden, and from there it parted and became four heads." The rivers



An 1866 Gothic florin of Great Britain carries a complicated inscription, possibly intended as an amulet

of Eden often are found on Hebrew amulets, and the fact that there are four of them parallels the four letters forming several of the names on this amulet.

The next name in the top inscription is Yohakh, the last letters of the first four words of Psalm 91:11 *kiy malakhav yitzaveh lakh lishmarkha bkhoh dirakhekha* ("For He will command His angels to guard you in all your journeys").

Aglā appears in the penultimate position of the top inscription, as well as to the right of the central names. Agla is the notarikon of the phrase from the daily Jewish liturgy, *Atah gibor leyolam Adonay* ("You are strong eternally, Lord"). Since the early Renaissance, both Jews and Christians popularly used the name Agla as a charm against fires.

At the end of the top inscription, and also in the very center of the amulet, is the actual Tetragrammaton. Above and below is Kuzu, which medieval Jews invented by temura, a method of substitution in which each letter is replaced by the following letter of the Hebrew alphabet. Scribes often write Kuzu on the backs of mezuzah scrolls along with Bamukhsaz, the temura for Eloheynu ("our God"). While Bamukhsaz does not appear on this amulet, at the bottom is Takhsisa, which could be Eloheynu created by a related process called eyk bakhar. In eyk bakhar, the letters are grouped into nine "houses," based on their gematria (numeric values). The first house has letters valued 1, 10, and 100; the second has 2, 20, 200, etc. To get Takhsisa, each letter is left alone or replaced by a letter from the prior or next house.

To the left of the central names is Azriel, which literally means "help of God." This and many other angel names commonly are found on medieval Jewish amulets. Above each word is a triangle of three dots, which often is found in 19th century books on magic. They are similar to a Christian Kabbalist symbol—three Hebrew letter yuds in a triangle—representing the Trinity.

My guess is that this piece was created as an amulet by a gentile, either a Christian Hebraist or a member of the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn. (Founded as a mystical group by high-ranking freemasons in 1888, this organization is the source of many of the aforementioned magic books.)

The last piece was, without a doubt, made by gentiles for magical purposes. The host coin probably is a British copper penny of the type minted from 1810 to 1860. It was engraved on both sides with the amulet for the sun, taken directly from Francis Barrett's 1801 book *The Magus*. A magic square is placed at the center of the engraving; while below is the circle-and-dot symbol for the sun, and above is the letter vov. Reading counterclockwise from the top one finds Nakhiel, who is the "Intelligence of the Sun," the number 666, heh alef, and God's name Eloah.



A British copper penny hosted the "amulet for the sun" and its magic square

The "magic" in the square has to do with its size and numbers. In this case, each side of the large square is composed of 6 squares, which is the gematria of vov and the name heh (spelled heh alef). There are 36 squares in total, the numeric value of the name Eloah. All the numbers in the magic square add up to 666. The sum of each row, column and diagonal is 111, the gematria of Nakhiel.

Grammatically, the name Eloah is the singular of Elohim, which is both one of the most common names of God in the Bible and a reference to pagan gods. The name here was spelled without a vov, so it has the value 36. Only three Biblical verses use this defective spelling. On the reverse of the amulet are the seals of the sun and of his spirit. Barrett claims that when this table is engraved on a plate of pure gold, the wearer is rendered renowned, amiable and equal to a king. He doesn't say what happens when it is engraved on a copper penny and used as a pocket piece.

As you can see, there is a surprising diversity of material out there, even in a field as limited as Hebrew-language love token. Inscriptions run the gamut from a single letter to a complex set of names. Source coins can be of copper, silver or gold, and sizes range from tiny to mid-size. They can take a variety of forms, from charms and pendants to pins and pocket pieces. Obviously, there are new things to collect if you keep your eyes open.

Name That Love Token

By Carol Decker

Acquiring initials and names of loved ones is a popular pursuit with many love token collectors. However, finding the desired ones can be a daunting task, with the odds of encountering the correct initials as much as 1 in 17,576 (see the December 2003 issue of the Love Letter). For those wanting a love token namesake, the odds are even more complex and some names never attainable. After fifteen years of collecting names, I have compiled a list/population study. Through the process, I have gained the following insights:

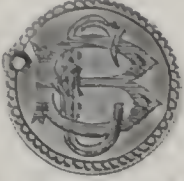


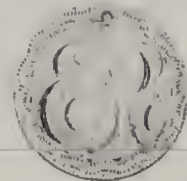








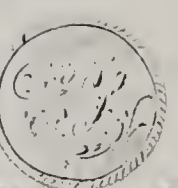























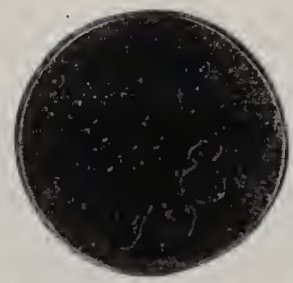

- Many (in my collection) have a population of one.
- Some names have spelling varieties.
- If a name is not on this list then it is probably either very difficult to find or possibly nonexistent.
- Foreign coins often have nontraditional names by U.S. standards, but may be common within their our countries.
- Names popular over a hundred years ago are not necessarily popular today.
- Popular female names are: Annie, Mary, May, Ida, Eva, Minnie, Fannie, and Emma.
- Popular male names are: Fred, Charlie, Bert, and Joe.
- With about a 50 year time difference, names on WWII era coins may vary from their Victorian counterparts.

Although they are included on the master list, I have also provided a separate list for comparison.

There are over 500 love tokens included in this study. Additional populations may provide us with even more insights, so if anyone else is collecting these, please send me the information so we may further the study. Love tokens, unlike coins, do not come equipped with handy mintage figure manuals, but through research and sharing information we can gain knowledge and better understanding.

Age	1	Christian	1	Frank	5	Johney	1	Melanie	1	Susie	1
Ada	1	Clara	2	Fred	9	Johnnie	1	Mertie	1	Syd	1
Addie	1	Clarence	1	Fritz	2	Jolly	1	Meta	1	Tantz	2
Adela	1	Claude	1	Garrie	1	Josie	3	Millie	1	Ted	1
Adolph	1	Clyde	1	Genie	1	Julia	3	Milton	1	Tenia	1
Aggie	2	Cookie	1	Geo	1	Julie	1	Minna	2	Tid	1
Agnes	2	Cora	1	George	4	Katie	3	Minnie	6	Tillie	2
Alex	1	Cordelia	1	Georgie	2	Kittie	3	Miriam	1	Toddy	1
Alf	1	Dan	1	Gertie	1	Lalia	1	Mollie	1	Tom	1
Alfred	2	David	1	Gertrude	2	Lavinia	1	Molly	1	Trilby	1
Alice	5	Del	1	Gillie	1	Leander	1	Moses	1	Troly	1
Allie	1	Della	1	Girty	1	Leck	1	Myra	1	Trots	1
Alma	1	Dick	3	Grace	2	Len	2	Myrtie	1	Victor	1
Amanda	1	Doddie	1	Graham	1	Lena	1	Ned	1	Wallie	1
Amelia	1	Donnie	1	Gus	1	Leslie	1	Nell	1	Walter	4
Amy	2	Dora	1	Gussie	1	Lettie	1	Nellie	5	Warren	2
Angelia	1	Dorfy	2	Gusta	1	Liesel	1	Nettie	1	Will	5
Anna	5	Dorothy	2	Gustave	1	Lilla	1	Noel	1	Willie	2
Anne	1	Doyle	1	Hanchen	1	Lillie	5	Ollie	1	Woodsie	1
Annie	11	Dumps	1	Hannah	2	Lily	1	Oscar	1	Woodie	1
Ardine	1	Ed	1	Hans	1	Livia	1	Pat	1	Susie	1
Arthur	4	Eddie	2	Harley	1	Lizzie	4	Pauline	1	Syd	1
Beatrice	1	Edith	4	Harrie	1	Lloyd	1	Pearl	1	Tantz	2
Bell	2	Effie	1	Harriet	1	Loe	1	Peggy	1	Ted	1
Bella	1	Eldred	1	Harry	4	Lottie	6	Phil	1	Tenia	1
Belle	3	Elise	3	Hattie	5	Lou	5	Phila	2	Tid	1
Ben	1	Eliza	2	Hazelle	1	Louis	1	Phyllis	1	Tillie	2
Bert	6	Ella	5	Hebe	2	Louisa	2	Pod	1	Toddy	1
Bertha	2	Elsie	1	Helen	1	Loulie	1	Rackus	1	Tom	1
Bertie	4	Elzie	1	Henry	2	Lucie	1	Ralie	1	Trilby	1
Berto	1	Emelia	1	Herbert	1	Lucy	2	Ralph	3	Troly	1
Beryl	1	Emily	3	Hermie	1	Lucy Ella	1	Ray	1	Trots	1
Bessie	4	Emma	6	Hock	1	Lulu	3	Ria	1	Victor	1
Bill	1	Emmie	3	Ida	9	Lydia	1	Richard	1	Wallie	1
Billie	1	Ernest	1	Ingrid	1	Lym	1	Rill	1	Walter	4
Birdie	1	Ernie	1	Ira	1	Mabel	2	Rivkah	1	Warren	2
Birney	1	Essie	2	Irene	3	Mac	1	Robert	1	Will	5
Blanch	1	Esther	1	Irvina	1	Madge	2	Rosa	1	Willie	2
Blanche	1	Etchell	1	Ivor	1	Maggie	5	Rose	6	Woodsie	1
Brownie	1	Ethel	3	Jack	1	Manda	1	Rudolf	1	Woodie	1
Burnette	1	Etta	3	Jake	1	Margret	1	Ruth	1		
Burton	1	Ettie	1	James	2	Marguerite	1	Sallie	2	WWII names: Del, Dick, Ella, Harry, Irene (2), Jean, Jim (2), Maxine, Miriam, Peggy, Ralph, Rose (2), Ted, Walter (3), Warren, and Woodie.	
Carl	3	Eva	7	Jane	2	Maria	1	Sam	2		
Caroline	1	Eve	1	Jason	1	Marie	2	Sanford	1		
Carrie	3	Everette	1	Jean	3	Mary	11	Sarah	2		
Cate	1	Fannie	5	Jennie	2	Mary Ann	1	Scott	1		
Celia	1	Fay	1	Jessie	4	Mattie	1	Sidney	1		
Chappie	1	Fenton	1	Jim	3	Maud	1	Sophie	2		
Charlie	6	Flo Belle	1	Jimmie	1	Maudie	1	Stella	1		
Charlotte	1	Flora	1	Joe	6	Maxine	1	Sue	1		
Chas	1	Frances	2	John	2	May	10	Sus	1		

B-1  1890 \$5.00	B-2  1891 \$5.00	B-3  <1874> \$8.00	B-4  1877 \$9.00	B-5  1877 \$9.00	B-6  1883 \$9.00
B-7  1884 \$9.00	B-8  1888 \$9.00	B-9  1875 \$10.00	B-10  1890 \$11.00	B-11  Canada HDime \$9.00	J-1  R.E. Blank \$9.00
J-2  Canada Dime \$9.00	J-3  Canada 5 Cent \$10.00	J-4  Canada 5 Cent \$10.00	J-5  Canada Dime \$10.00	J-6  Canada Dime \$10.00	J-7  Canada Dime \$10.00
J-8  Canada Dime \$10.00	J-9  6 Pence \$12.50	J-10  Canada Dime \$12.50	J-11  1886 \$12.50	J-12  Canada 5 Cents \$15.00	J-13  Canada 5 Cents \$15.00
J-14  British 3 Pence \$9.00	J-15  British 3 Pence \$9.00	J-16  British 3 Pence \$9.00	J-17  British 3 Pence \$9.00	J-18  British 4 Pence \$9.00	J-19  British 6 Pence \$9.00
J-20  Canada Dime \$9.00	J-21  1877 \$9.00	J-22  1877 \$9.00	J-23  Canada Dime \$12.50	J-24  Blank \$15.00	J-25  Canada Half Dime \$8.00
J-26  Canada Half Dim \$8.00	J-27  England 3 Pence \$8.00	J-28  Canada Dime \$8.00	J-29  1856 \$8.00	J-30  1857 \$8.00	J-31  1883 \$8.00
J-32  1859 IHC \$15.00	J-33  1883 \$15.00	J-34  1875 \$15.00	J-35  1887 \$15.00	J-36  1892 \$15.00	J-37  Canada Dime \$15.00
J-38  Seated Quarter \$12.50	J-39  Canada Quarter \$15.00	J-40  1853 Quarter \$25.00	J-41  1861 Quarter \$25.00	J-42  1876 Jewish Quarter \$25.00	J-43  1877 Quarter \$25.00

J-44  <1853> \$15.00	CB	J-45  1875 \$15.00	LCP	J-46  1876 \$15.00	JK	J-47  1883 \$15.00	AMH	J-48  1892 \$15.00	ER	J-49  Canada Dime \$15.00	FGW
J-50  Canada Dime	WCL	H-1  1883 \$10.00	MB	H-2  1883 \$12.00	JD	H-3  1884 \$12.00	MLH	H-4  1889 Shilling \$17.00	WHA	P-1  <1853> Half Dime \$12.00	MD
P-2  Dime R.E. \$6.00	JR/AB	P-3  <1853> \$8.00	PTD	P-4  <1874> \$9.00	EP	P-5  1875 \$9.00	HED	P-6  1889 \$8.00	PJD	P-7  1891 \$9.00	LEU
P-8  1897 \$9.00	DEMF	P-9  1899 \$9.00	HVW	P-10  1869 Jamaica \$30.00	ER	S-1  1854 H Dime \$7.00	LGF	S-2  1875 \$12.00	AH	S-3  1876 \$9.00	cc/J
S-4  Seated Dime \$5.00	(design)	S-5  1875 \$12.00	FRC/78	S-6  1877 \$9.00	JWL	S-7  1883 \$10.00	EHS	S-8  1890 \$8.00	IAE	S-9  Seated Dime \$10.00	JWC
S-10  1877 \$7.00	NH	S-11  1877 \$9.00	WPJ	S-12  1854 H Dime \$6.00	(hearts)	S-13  Seated Dime \$8.00	B	T-1  1857 H Dime \$12.00	ALTA	T-2  Canada Dime \$12.00	ROY
T-3  1875 \$9.00	TAD	T-4  1876 \$15.00	ALICE	T-5  Seated Dime \$12.00	B	T-6  <1854> \$8.00	CB	T-7  1875 \$9.00	FTS	T-8  T-1 Gold \$48.00	HP
T-9  1884 IHC \$25.00	FRN	T-10  1865 3 Cent \$22.00	MM	T-11  1856 Quarter \$28.00	M	T-12  LC? \$50.00	AC/TE/1751 pict	T-13  Therese Dollar \$85.00			

T-14  1875 \$12.00	T-15  1877 \$12.00	T-16  1886 \$12.00	T-17  1887 \$11.00	T-18  Canada Dime \$10.00	T-19  3 Pence \$7.00
T-20  Canada H Dime \$20.00	T-21  1875 3 Pence \$20.00	T-22  3 Pence \$20.00	V-1  <1854> H Dime \$5.00	V-6  1875 \$9.00	

TERM	MEANING
Just a date	Engraved on a U.S. dime
T-1,T-2,T-3	Types of \$1 gold coins listed in the redbook
R.E.	Engraved on a coin with a reeded edge
design	no letters engraved just a pattern or geometric shape
pict	A pictorial or picture engraved of something
seated	U.S. coin of the seated liberty design (1838-1891)
<1853>	Arrows at the date on the coin
IHC	U.S. Indian Head cent (1859-1909)
V nickel	U.S. Liberty Head Nickel (1883-1912)
JER	Bold capitol letters in the order I think the engraving to be
blank	Reverse of the token is blank, no engraving or coin design
LC	U.S. Large cent (1793-1857)
barber	U.S. Liberty Head design (1892-1915)
H Dime	Engraved on a 5 cent silver coin
bust	U.S. Bust coin pre 1838
shield	U.S. nickel (1866-1883)

Love Token Sales

Welcome to the latest issue of the Love Letter and the love token sales. Due to a family illness, I was unable to put together a sale for the last issue. I apologize for the length of time it took for some of you to receive your purchases and I appreciate your patience and your continued support! Hopefully we can keep on track from here on in. Even if you call and are not able to reach me please leave your choices on my answering machine or voicemail. I will always get the message so you have a better chance to get the coins you want.

As always, Starting from the time the first person contacts me, until seven days have passed, anyone calling can order up to 4 tokens only. After the seven days if you wish to order more then you will be able to call and place that order. By doing this, it is hoped that more people will get an opportunity to purchase the tokens they are wanting. Any other suggestions or questions are welcomed and feedback would be appreciated.

Good luck to everyone and remember if you have any amount of tokens you wish to sell don't hesitate to call me and we will get them into the sale and out to everyone in the club. - Steve Tompkins, TS Sales Manager

NOTES FOR THIS SALE:

- Lot # B-1—MODERN ENGRAVING
- Lot # B-2—MODERN ENGRAVING
- Lot # J-24—PLAIN EDGE, THIN PLANCHET
- Lot # J-30—MANY SCRATCHES
- Lot # J-32—SOME ENGRAVING ON REVERSE
- Lot # J-39—SLIGHTLY BENT
- Lot # P-10—JAMACIAN PENNY
- Lot # S-5—WREATH OF BRANCHES WITH LEAVES
- Lot # T-11—ENAMELED WITH ONE CHIP
- Lot # T-12—COPPER WITH A MOON PICTORIAL ON REV
- Lot # T-13—ENGRAVED WITH WC ON REV

Ordering Love Tokens

Please make checks payable to:

Steve Tompkins

P.O. Box 1946

Sequim, WA 98382

Home: (360) 457-4992

Cell: (360) 670-9688

smt115@aol.com

In remitting, please do not forget to include the postage as follows:

Orders up to \$50.00 add \$2.00;

up to \$100.00, add \$3.25;

up to \$150.00, add \$4.00;

up to \$200.00, add \$5.00;

up to \$300.00, add \$5.50;

up to \$400.00, add \$7.75;

over \$400.00, add \$9.25.

Love Letter

Love Token Society Newsletter



Dr. Robert C. Newhouse
5840 Tuttle Cove Road
Manhattan, KS 66503



Love Letter

No. 213

Love Token Society Newsletter

June 2004



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Love Letter Layout/Design

Mary Hammel
Manhattan, KS

Love Tokens: For Love and Money

Taken from an article by Richard Giedroyc, Feb. 14, 2000 (PCGS)

Since coin collecting covers just about every other aspect of human endeavor, here we will focus on how it covers the romantic side of life. Many modern coins depict cherubs and other design devices that allude to romance, but nowhere else can you get the impact of romance on numismatics as you can with "love tokens."

A love token isn't really a token. It is a coin that has been defaced by planing down and engraving one or both sides. In the European tradition, which began in the 17th century, such items are simply called "engraved coins." Leave it to the Americans to give them a fancy name.

Love tokens didn't become popular in the United States until about the time of the Civil War. By the turn of the century, the custom was waning. Most American love tokens you'll encounter will have the initials of a person, sometimes a name or a message. A few will have an ornate depiction of some object or symbol, such as a bird or a heart.

In the American tradition, the love token was given to a sweetheart as a token to be carried at all times. In the U.S. Mint tradition, love tokens were blamed for a shortage of dimes, since this is the most commonly encountered coin turned into a love token.

Coins were planed and engraved, then made into pins, earrings, necklaces, bracelets, stick pins and cufflinks, in addition to being made into pocket-piece love tokens.

Most love tokens made today are probably machine engraved. The collectible 19th century U.S. love tokens are all engraved by hand. Love tokens were typically made from Seated Liberty dimes. Other dime type designs were also used as the host for such defacings. As a result, these coins are much rarer and in higher demand among collectors.

Love tokens are known to be made from half dimes, quarters, silver dollars, gold dollars, gold \$2.50 quarter eagles and even \$20 double eagles. They probably are made from just about every denomination selected for the love token. One factor in the desirability of the piece is the denomination selected for the love token. Another important factor is the ornateness of the artwork involved. The more detailed and fancy the engraving, the more desirable the love token.

As for the cost of a love token, that can depend on the artwork. The fancier the piece, the more it may cost.

These "tokens" make great gifts for many occasions: birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, christenings, and more. Or just a "Thinking of You" token!

— Submitted by Pat Hammond



Notes from the Secretary-Treasurer

Please note that we have \$1,200.00 in the LTS permanent fund. LTS has six (6) life members. Life member dues are \$200.00. In accordance with LTS directives these dues will be deposited in a CD and the interest should be sufficient to pay their dues each year. The plan will work as soon as interest rates go up again.



Letter to the Editor

As a brand new member of the Society I am not sure that the following will be of interest, or if it is being sent to the proper party. Anyway for what it is worth, I submit the following list of names we have on our collection of Love Tokens.

On Dimes:

CADE (?), PAPA, UNCLE, AUNT,
GRANDPA, CLARA, HUGO,
TASSO

On Bust Halves:

Mr. LB HARPER, ARTHUR L
Wilson

ELLIE on Venezuela 1 Centavo
RUTH on Barber Quarter
JULIUS on 1876 Quarter
MEG on 1856 Quarter pin back
AMY on Canadian Dime
DAVE on Australia 1941 Florin

Dimes mounted on a chain on a bar
with names KATIE & CLARA and
on the bar is the name CECELIA.

Although we have been retired from
the coin business some 25 years, we
are just getting around to joining the
Love Token Society, something we
should have done years ago.

Jess Peters
710 El Rio
North Port, FL 34287-2557

Financial Statement

General Funds

Balance as of April 1, 2004 \$5,615.46

Receipts

New Members	\$37.50
Membership Dues 2004	\$500.00
Book Sale	\$53.00
CD Interest	\$30.00

Total Receipts \$620.50

Subtotal \$6,235.96

Expenses

Check #1057 - Robert C. Newhouse	
Graphics, Postage, Kinko's (Love Letter #212)	\$357.19
Check #1058 - Citizen's Bank (add to CD)	\$515.12
Check #1059 - Lloyd Entenmann (book sales)	\$200.00
Check #1060 - U.S.P.S. (postage)	\$15.14

Total Expenses \$1,087.45

Balance as of June 15, 2004 \$5,148.51

Permanent Fund

Citizen's Bank & Trust, Mandeville, LA 70448

1 year certificate of deposit \$1,200.00

Total Love Token Society Funds \$6,348.51

Membership Report

Membership As of April 1, 2004	201
New Members	3
Membership As of June 15, 2004	204*

*Membership will be reduced by the number of those who do not renew by publication date.

- Sidney R. Gale - Secretary /Treasurer

Welcome New Members!

#1082 Denise Caruso
2271 NE 61st Ct.
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33308

#1083 Jesse Peters
710 El Rio
North Port, FL 34287

#1084 Harriet Herrin
937 Orange Ave.
Post Orange, FL 32129



Please visit our website at:
www.lovetokensociety.net



» President's Letter – By Carol Decker «

Thanks to Our Members!

I want to extend a round of thanks to those members who supplied lists of names from their collections. For those who intended to send information and didn't, it is not too late! I plan on one last update in the next issue of the Love Letter. Entries should be sent within a month from issue of this newsletter (but it is better to do it right away than to wait and forget).

Of the participating members, one has 150 names in his collection and sent a list of 67 names not on my list. I am always surprised when I encounter a new name and it is beginning to seem that the names are endless. At a recent show I purchased eight new names. I also am amazed that almost half of one person's collection is different from my own.

Two other members sent their entire lists, both new names and duplicates. Some of the more unusual names were on foreign coins. A submission of Auntie and J.H. Greadybill are not included on the list below. Auntie is an affectionate name for Aunt which would be included in a list of "Family Members". In the same respect, there is some debate with "Mame" and "Mamie". Some say they are names and others say either could apply as an affectionate (usually preferred in the South) informal name for a nanny. Both have been added to the list along with Sissie, which is probably an affectionate name for sister. And lastly, J.H. Greadybill could not be used because the list of names was strictly a study of first names (Note: Love Tokens with last names are much scarcer than those with just first names).

New Entries:

Absalon	Adam	Albert
Alfred	Alida	Alonzo
Agnes	Annette	Arlie
Barta	Beth	Beulah
Blanchie	Bots	Carolina (2)
Cato	Cecil	Clarice
Clydie	Connie	Cornelia
Dave	Dehert	Dennie
Dins	Dora	Dorothy
Edessa	Edmund	Edna (2)
Elgin	Ellen	Elmer
Elmira	Emma	Eveline
Estrid (Danish)	Fannie	Flossie
Funkie	Gay	Geiger

Geo	Hallie	Handy
Harris	Hattie (2)	Holly
Homer	Hoppy	Jennie
Jer	Jesse	Jessie
Joaquin	Johan	Karen
Kate (France)	Laura	Leone
Liza	Lizzie	Lon
Lucky	Mame	Mamie
Marcie	Margie	Martha
Martie	Mary	Maude
Maurice	May (3)	Minnie
Murch	Murray	Nellie
Nero	Nina	Norma
Octavia	Olivia	Ora
Otis	Paul	Perle
Perry	Phillie	Prutch
Robbie	Raymond	Rosie
Russ	Sadie	Sibyl
Sissie	Sylvia	Teddy
Theo	Thora (Australia)	Tiny
Tom (Australia)	Topsy	Tot
Veri	Willie	Zalda (Norway)
Zeff		

There is some debate if all the names on both lists are really names. It is possible that some unusual ones could be last names, words in other languages or words in the English language. For instance, Burton, Fenton, Geiger, or Absalon are unusual enough they could be last names. Elgin is best known as a town in Illinois, but could this be a first or last name as well? Gay, Lucky, Tiny, and Handy could easily be nicknames, but they are also legitimate words in the English language. I decided in this update that it is better to present all the information than to be overly cautious, and let the readers decide for themselves.

Thanks also to George Simms who sent a copy of an article on love tokens from the Suncoast News, published by the Tampa Tribune. George had been interviewed on love tokens for a Valentine's Day edition. More interesting than the article was that he had been contacted by the original owner of the love token bracelet mentioned in the article. Gladys spoke with George and told him the story behind the bracelet she received during WWII. Five Australian florins and two sixpences made up the body of the bracelet and it was engraved, "To my dear Gladys from Herman, New Guinea, 1944". George Simms wrote the following to sum up their conversation:

"There was never any great romance between Gladys and Herman. During the war (WWII) young women were encouraged to write to service men. Herman was a pen-pal to Gladys. He sent her the bracelet during the war. She put it away and forgot Herman. She married someone else and never saw Herman. When her husband retired (about 15 years ago) they moved from Michigan to Hudson FL. About 12 years ago her husband decided to go to the local coin store and sell some old coins. Gladys dug out the bracelet and went with him and sold the bracelet."

George illustrates that LT recipients were not always sweethearts, some were friends and even pen pals. We can also tell by the inscriptions on some that others were given to mothers and sisters. George is very lucky to have discovered the story behind his and we thank him for sharing it with us.

One last note while thanking member contributions, this is an election year. Every two years LTS officers are elected and as is more often the case, re-elected. All current officers have served consecutive terms and would gladly pass the torch on to eager individuals. Anyone with aspiration to hold public office, please contact me so we can prepare for the election at the end of the year. If you think you might like to serve but are apprehensive and unsure, contact the person currently in that position and ask questions about what it entails. Thanks so much to all our dedicated members that make this organization possible.



Matching Love Tokens *By Bernie Herrmann, Jr.*

In the never-ending search for love tokens, you'd think you would never find two identical love tokens. But this is not true. In my wildest dreams, I never thought something like this could happen. But then to have it happen twice is totally amazing!

In the past 40 years of collecting and research, I have discovered two sets of alike love tokens. The coins were purchased at different times, and one was a birthday gift. Of the Liberty Seated dimes I have purchased, one had the initials "H.F.Z." on it. Then about three years later, I received a coin for a birthday gift that also had the initials "H.F.Z." on it. The only thing was, this one had the initials enamelled in blue. Both love tokens were 1891 Liberty Seated dimes.

I then borrowed a high-powered medical microscope from Dr. Todd Wahrenberger, who is my stepson. After studying them over and over under the microscope, I discovered— to my surprise— they were indeed engraved by the same person, and identical. This was unbelievable because I now had a matched pair (except for the one that was enamelled blue)!

Then I discovered another strange incident with Canadian love tokens. Two coins that were purchased six years apart had the same identical style and artwork on them. The artwork was very, very fine and outstanding— also very unique and intricate. This happened to be the best artwork I have ever seen on a love token in my life.

The artwork on both coins was identical. One love token was a Canadian half dollar, extremely fine, with the initials "M.J.S." on it. The other love token was a Canadian quarter dollar, also extremely fine, with the name "Will" on it. These two Canadian love tokens were also studied under a high-powered microscope. They were both engraved by the same person, and with the same fine artwork, which was identical. A matched pair in artwork!

Over the years, I have also found four sets of love tokens that were cuff links. Two sets of Liberty dimes and two sets of Liberty Seated half dimes. Each set matched. This shoots down the theory that collectors and dealers tell you: There are no two love tokens alike. It does happen. Just keep looking and studying your tokens. Hopefully, someday you too will come up with a find like I did!






















Letter to the Editor


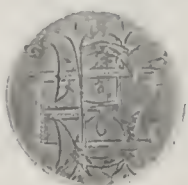





I have received today from my Uncle by marriage, A.R. Taylor of Gulf Shores, a newspaper clipping regarding a compendium of love token names being assembled by your society. While I have no knowledge whatsoever about coins or collectibles, I'm interested in this article referred to me by Archie Taylor. I'd like to add a name to the compendium, and find out the best way to include the data in your archives. Given the text of the article (Coin World, Monday, May 17, 2004), I'm willing to bet this is the only token located so far with this name on it.

The name is MEDORA. It is engraved on the reverse of an 1883 silver dollar. The love token was purchased by me, at the suggestion of A.R. Taylor, and I have given it as a gift to my daughter, who bears the name.

Medora was used as a woman's name in the 19th century, and had wide enough currency that it even became the name of a small town in North Dakota. My daughter is the third woman in 140 years to bear this name in our family. The first was her ancestor Medora Marien, a German immigrant who married into my wife's family in the 1860s. The second was her great aunt, Medora Sawyer Crawford, who died suddenly in her 30's following surgery +1952. If appropriate, I'll photograph the token, and perhaps even send along a photograph of Medora wearing it.

The Reverend Frank B. Crumbaugh III, Rector
The Episcopal Church of the Holy Innocents
Marine Street
Beach Haven, Long Beach Island, NJ 08008

J-1  R.E. Blank \$9.00	J-2  Canada Dime \$9.00	J-3  Canada 5 Cents \$10.00	J-4  Canada 5 Cents \$10.00	J-5  1877 \$10.00	J-6  1877 \$10.00
J-7  Canada Dime \$10.00	J-8  Canada Dime \$10.00	J-9  British 6 Pence \$12.50	J-10  Canada Dime \$12.50	J-11  1886 \$12.50	J-12  Canada 5 Cents \$15.00
J-13  Canada 5 Cents \$15.00	J-14  British 3 Pence \$9.00	J-15  British 3 Pence \$9.00	J-16  British 3 Pence \$9.00	J-17  British 6 Pence \$9.00	J-18  Canada Dime \$9.00
J-19  1877 \$9.00	J-20  1877 \$9.00	J-21  Canada Dime \$12.50	J-22  Canada 5 Cents \$8.00	J-23  Canada 5 Cents \$8.00	J-24  British 3 Pence \$8.00
J-25  Canada Dime \$8.00	J-26  1856 \$8.00	J-27  1857 \$8.00	J-28  1887 \$15.00	J-29  1861 HDime \$15.00	J-30  Dime \$15.00
J-31  Canada Dime \$15.00	J-32  1887 \$15.00	J-33  3C Nickel \$10.00	J-34  British 3 Pence \$10.00	J-35  British 3 Pence \$10.00	J-36  Canada 5 Cents \$10.00
J-37  Seated H Dime \$10.00	J-38  Canada Dime \$10.00	J-39  Canada Dime \$10.00	J-40  1852 \$10.00	J-41  <1853> \$10.00	J-42  1872 \$10.00
J-43  1875 \$10.00	J-44  1876 \$10.00	J-45  1876 \$10.00	J-46  1877 \$10.00	J-47  1875 \$15.00	J-48  1876 \$15.00
J-49  1883 \$15.00	J-50  1892 \$15.00	J-51  Canada Dime \$15.00	J-52  Seated Quarter \$12.50	J-53  Canada Quarter \$15.00	J-54  1877 Quarter \$25.00

H-1  1884 \$12.00	P-1 JR/AB  R.E. Dime \$6.00	P-2 PTD  <1853> \$8.00	P-3 HED  1875 \$9.00	P-4 PJD  1889 \$8.00	P-5 DEMF  1897 \$9.00
P-6 HVM  1899 \$9.00	S-1 AH  1875 \$12.00	S-2 cc/J  1876 \$9.00	S-3 FRC/78  1875 \$12.00	S-4 JWL  1877 \$9.00	S-5 EHS  1883 \$10.00
S-6 JWC  Seated Dime \$10.00	S-7 NH  1877 \$7.00	S-8 WPJ  1877 \$9.00	T-1 ALTA  1857 H DIME \$12.00	T-2 FTS  1875 \$9.00	T-3 CC  T-1 Gold \$ \$48.00
T-4 MM  1865 3C Nickel \$22.00	T-5 Mother  1874 3C Nickel \$28.00	T-6 BAL  1835 Bust Dime \$28.00	T-7 Blue/Club  Dime \$15.00	T-8 FCJ  Canada 5 Cents \$10.00	T-9 Tillie  <1854> H Dime \$25.00
T-10 FG  1875 \$10.00	T-11 CM  1875 \$15.00	T-12 KK  1883 \$8.00	T-13 EED  1877 \$12.00	T-14 JAM  Canada Dime \$10.00	T-15 DAR  3 Pence \$7.00
V-1 HG  1875 \$9.00					

Love Token Sales

Welcome to the latest issue of the Love Letter and the love token sales. Even if you call and are not able to reach me please leave your choices on my answering machine or voicemail. I will always get the message so you have a better chance to get the coins you want.

As always, Starting from the time the first person contacts me, until seven days have passed, anyone calling can order up to 4 tokens only. After the seven days if you wish to order more then you will be able to call and place that order. By doing this, it is hoped that more people will get an opportunity to purchase the tokens they are wanting. Any other suggestions or questions are welcomed and feedback would be appreciated.

NOTES FOR THIS SALE:

- Lot # B-1- Modern Engraving
- Lot # B-2- Modern Engraving
- Lot # B-15- Engraved on Both Sides
- Lot # B-20- Engraved on Back with "FROM FATHER 1892"
- Lot # B-21- Engraved on Both Sides
- Lot # B-26- Pinback Broken
- Lot # B-27- Pinback Broken
- Lot # B-31- Engraved with "COLLECTOR FOR GEORGE DELANEY SPRINGFIELD MASS"
- Lot # B-35- Engraved with "MISS KAPFF BORN OCT.16th (OBV) A. POSNER (REV)"
- Lot # J-25- Many Scratches
- Lot # J-27- Many Scratches
- Lot # J-53- Slightly Bent
- Lot # S-3- Wreath of Branches with Leaves
- Lot # T-3- Couple of Scratches
- Lot # T-7- Engraved on Back with "1892"
- Lot # T-9- Pictorial Seascape and Date of 1885

Good luck to everyone and remember if you have any amount of tokens you wish to sell don't hesitate to call me and we will get them into the sale and out to everyone in the club. - Steve Tompkins, LTS Sales Manager

Ordering Love Tokens

Please make checks payable to:

Steve Tompkins

P.O. Box 1946

Sequim, WA 98382

Home: (360) 457-4992

Cell: (360) 670-9688

smt115@aol.com

In remitting, please do not forget to include the postage as follows:

Orders up to \$50.00 add \$2.00;

up to \$100.00, add \$3.25;

up to \$150.00, add \$4.00;

up to \$200.00, add \$5.00;

up to \$300.00, add \$5.50;

up to \$400.00, add \$7.75;

over \$400.00, add \$9.25.

Love Letter

Love Token Society Newsletter



Dr. Robert C. Newhouse
5840 Tuttle Cove Road
Manhattan, KS 66503



Love Letter

No. 214

Love Token Society Newsletter

August 2004



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Love Letter Layout/Design

Mary Hammel
Manhattan, KS

Love Tokens: Two of a Kind?

By Carol Decker

Often it is said that "No two love tokens are alike." In fact I remember Lloyd Entenmann uttering this famous quotation first. I was questioned the remark because I had seen matching love tokens with my own eyes; but there is truth to this statement although, it requires explanation. A design, border, or set of initials can appear the same at a glance, but are they really?

Some love tokens are designed as coordinated or matched pairs, made especially for use as earrings or cufflinks where symmetry is important. A coordinated pair will match in style with the same border design and type of script, text, or monogram, but with each coin having different individual letters. A matched pair is one where the design is recreated the "same" on both coins. However, due to hand workmanship they can never be exactly the same. Minor variations occur in placement, length, depth, and angle of the engraved lines. It may be splitting hairs, but some differences are in the minutia, with each coin having its own individual fingerprint.

Finding a matched pair can be very exciting, especially if they were purchased from different dealers or at different times. Reuniting them gives great satisfaction and feels like reuniting an orphaned twin into a good home. Coordinated love tokens are easier to find than matched pairs. Some engravers may have routinely used a common border and letter style as a trademark stock item and may have made countless numbers of them for different customers.

Dismantled jewelry also offers the potential of finding coordinated love tokens. Many bracelets and necklaces have been taken apart over the years either by the original owners, dealers, or collectors. The reasons may include breakage, spending the coins, dividing an item to pass to more than one heir, and for display or sale (mounting in a 2X2 or longer ago placing

in a 90% silver junk bin). Intact love token jewelry now commands a value higher than its individual parts, so few are dismantled currently. Broken earrings also yield matched pairs (Look for remains of solder at the top and bottom on the reverse to indicate a love token formerly an earring).

Probably the term "identical" should not be used when referring to love tokens, unless they are modern machine engravings. If one were to visit a local jewelry store in hopes of ordering a love token, the result would probably be similar to the machined engraving on trophy plates. Today, what most jewelers call engraving is done with a diamond scribe that just pushes the metal out of a channel, leaving a burred edge on both sides of the groove, with no metal actually being carved away or removed.

Machine engraving is much like an assembly line. Type is set in the machine and traced with a stylus which guides the scribe on the surface of the coin. The human element is absent and uniform machine precision can make hundreds alike. With such precision, one might think the machine to be superior; but human work possesses creativity, vision, variety, and all those slight variations which give character and personality to a work of art. Having "no two alike" is praised and proudly announced to others as a compliment of this art form.



Letter to the Editor

I am a recently returned member, and I believe this is the first time I've ever had a chance to write to you. I wanted to congratulate you on the high quality of the newsletter. I always enjoy reading it and finding new information on this hobby we share. I have a small correction for the most recent issue though; I have seen love tokens on the silver 3c piece, which, at 14mm, is smaller than the silver half dime (15.5mm). One page six of the newsletter, this is identified as the smallest size US coin ever made into a love token. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,

George Morris



Letter to the Editor

Enjoyed your articles on names and I always enjoy getting the Love Letter. Regarding Carol Decker's request, here are the name pieces in my collection- some first names, some nicknames, some full names:

Ann, Forty (nickname? on a twenty cent piece), Mary Wing (a birth piece on a Seated dollar), Myrna Pat Dyke (this one is in Lloyd's book), John Lyle Harris, Ernest*, Ernie*, Minnie* (3), Ella* (2), Helen*, Jim*, Clarence*, Aimee*, Mattie*, Warrie, Ezra, Mrs. Floyd (the name of a neighbor where I grew up), Carlos L. Ayres (with a complete address), Ethel, Bessie, Ruth, Jay/Julia, Flossie, Mildred, J. Troy, Birt, Edith, Calle, Dame, Gerty, Erna, Lulu, Dr Shaw, Claire, Melinda, JC Stats, Lillie, Frank, Nannie, C Peltier, R Laperriere, Seym, Anna, Lilian, and Mrs. F to Mrs. R.

If any member is interested in a piece, I'd like to hear from her/him, as many were pieces I bought in collections, etc., so they have no real significance to me.

*Family names

Ernie Turnes
eturnes@juno.com

Financial Statement

General Funds

Balance as of June 15, 2004 \$5,148.51

Receipts

New Members	\$25.00
Membership Dues 2004	\$25.00
Interest	\$4.44

Total Receipts

\$54.44

Subtotal

\$5,202.95

Expenses

Check #1061 - Robert C. Newhouse (Love Letter #213)

Kinko's -	\$226.00
USPS -	\$111.00
Graphics -	\$75.00
Misc. Postage -	\$11.60
	\$423.60

Total Expenses

\$423.60

Balance as of August 15, 2004

\$4,779.35

Permanent Fund

Citizen's Bank & Trust, Mandeville, LA 70448

1 year certificate of deposit

\$1,200.00

Total Love Token Society Funds

\$5,979.35

Membership Report

Membership As of June 15, 2004	178
New Members	2
Membership As of August 15, 2004	180

- Sidney R. Gale - Secretary /Treasurer

Welcome New Members!

#1085 Gregory Pang
P.O.Box 3193
Hayward, CA 94540-3193

#1086 Frank Tollerton
P.O. Box 5
Wexford, PA 15090



Please visit our website at:

www.lovetokensociety.net

President's Message

By Carol Decker

Recently an ad was published in *Numismatic News* for a new book, Superstition, Urban Legends and our Money by Richard Giedroyc. The ad said that chapter one mentioned a variety of coins and tokens, among them love tokens. I ordered the book and was a little disappointed to find that there were only three paragraphs dedicated to love tokens.

The information was all pretty general but the most interesting point was a quote from an April 1882 issue of *American Journal of Numismatics* which stated, "A somewhat similar craze to that described above is also prevalent among school girls, who beg small silver pieces of their sweethearts and friends, one side of which having been smoothed, is engraved with the initials of the giver. The greater the variety in size, or mintage, the more desirable is the necklace. A somewhat similar taste has led to a call on the mint for new 10-cent pieces to be used in making bangles, and the demand has at times exceeded the supply."



The Internet Impact

By Ernie Turnes



Everyone knows that the Internet has made many remarkable improvements in the way that society gathers and disseminates information. And the changes continue all the time. Below are a few that have affected our hobby and our club. We may like some of these, dislike some, be neutral about some, and be unaware of many more.

Love Token Society members have been able to get to know other members better. Before the Net, we might only meet and then communicate with one another as a result of attendance at annual conventions of the American Numismatic Association and Florida Unlimited Numismatists, where the LTS holds its meetings. Today, e-mail allows instant communication with one another. Cheaper long distance phone rates have also improved member-to-member communications.

On-line auctions have pretty much brought an end to the auctioning of material through our newsletter. It's difficult to compete with the technology available through services like eBay, the on-line auction with which I am most familiar.

The Net gives us exposure to so much more hobby information and material. With on-line auctions, I see, learn about, and am able to buy love tokens I would never know about otherwise.

We can advertise our hobby and club by referring people to our web page. Sid Gale does this when he consigns items on eBay.

Collectors and prospective members can also learn about our club through links with other numismatic organizations such as the ANA.

We have experimented with distributing the *Love Letter* on-line. The Net allows the immediate and clear transmission of love token images, features not available through a paper-only newsletter.

Even though we don't all have a computer, we do have access to the Internet, thanks to availability of equipment at places like public libraries.

The exposure of love tokens on-line has, I believe, contributed to the increase in the value of our collections.

On-line "chat rooms" allow us to ask questions and give and get answers.

E-mail allows us to transmit photos to others. A few years ago Sid Gale e-mailed me the pictures in the story that he wrote about his research on a love token bracelet that his son had found at a estate auction. I turned his article into a talk at a Baltimore Coin Club meeting. People loved the photos, which had been put on a CD and projected with a laptop computer. You can also e-mail pictures of on-line auction material to others that collect.

The Internet will continue to change our hobby, in ways that most of us probably can't even imagine.

Love Token Meeting at NENA 2004

Saturday, October 2nd - 2 p.m.

New Hampshire Coin Expo

Wayfarer Inn and Convention Center, Bedford, NH

Introduction to Love Tokens, PowerPoint Presentation, Show and Tell

*Type in New Hampshire Coin Expo in browser search engine, and print out a one dollar off coupon good for Friday or Saturday of show.



Autobiography of a Love Token

Reprinted from the February 2000 MCCA Newsletter



*In 1990, this story was told to Bill Fivaz by an immigrant who was 85 years old.
As autobiographies go, this can probably be considered a rather unusual one.*

I was first born in Berlin, Germany the year 1905 on a bright spring day that was so typical of this part of Europe in April. I remember that I had a large family with many brothers and sisters. All of us looking remarkably alike in mirror images of our Prussian parents. Life was good in those years shortly after the turn of the century, especially for aristocrats like us who were looked upon by others as something to be treasured and admired. I guess you could say, we were literally worth our weight in gold. Kaiser Wilhelm the II was the leaders of our country in my young years and I tried to pattern myself after him in everyway that I could. He was a strong, forceful man, but also had a gentleness when the situation dictated it. My younger years were spent with many families. I helped them pay for their necessities, as well as a good many luxuries. It pleased me that I could use my talents to help so many of my countrymen in their everyday needs.

As the years passed, I gradually started losing some of the luster that I had enjoyed in the first part of my life. Then one day I met a handsome young man, a lieutenant in the German Army. The year was now 1914 and I sensed that something very special was about to happen to alter my life dramatically. The Lieutenant's name was Carl Mueller and one month before our meeting he had met a beautiful young girl by the name of Stephanie Eisner. They were deeply attracted to each other, she by his erect military bearing and gentle humor and he by her incredible beauty and modesty. After several months of courtship, they decided to wed in the spring of the following year in 1915.

However, war clouds were gathering on the horizon. Before that anticipated day arrived, Carl was ordered to a sector far away from his intended bride. He cared deeply for her and wanting to give her something to remember him by while he was away. He tried to think of what would be appropriate. You may recall at the beginning of my story, I mentioned that I was first born in 1905. My rebirth occurred some nine years later and to me it was a more meaningful and enriching renaissance than I ever thought possible. This is how it happened.

Carl had remembered me and while I had aged slightly, he still looked upon me as something of great beauty and value. What could be more appropriate, he thought, than to give Stephanie something small, yet valuable to remember him by. But Carl wanted this to be a special gift, something Stephanie could see every day and be a reminder of his love for her. He wanted something different. He remembered hearing from some of his officer friends, those who had visited England several years before, of a custom in that country. It was popular for a young man to have an English coin engraved with the name or initials of his love, and then present that to her as a token of love.

Carl thought this was a splendid idea and took me to Joseph Donner, a local jeweler and explained what he wanted. He told Joseph that he wanted Stephanie's initials placed on one side and a pin on the other so that she could wear it everyday next to her heart. Joseph was most impressed by this young man's obvious love for his sweetheart, as no one but someone hopelessly in love could ask for a coin of such value to be used in this manner. He told Carl it would be ready in one week, just two days before he was to leave on his new assignment. When Carl returned only a week later, he was thrilled beyond belief. Joseph had done a spectacular job and used all of his creative talents to fashion the most beautiful love token imaginable.

He had carefully ground off my reverse side, engraved a delicate scalloped border around my rim, and minutely textured my field. Onto that he embossed in pink gold from some he had on hand and elaborately twined, and entwined a very intricate SE. Then he attached a pin on the opposite side. I had in every sense of the word, been reborn.

Carl couldn't wait to give his special gift to Stephanie. That night he placed me in a small velvet box and put it in her hand during dinner. When she opened it and saw her initials gleaming up through my new face, tears welled in her eyes and she embraced Carl, unable to say a word. That moment

was the fondest of my entire life. Two days later Carl left with his regiment and three months later, he was reported killed in action somewhere in Russia.

Stephanie wore me everyday of her life until she passed away three years ago in a small town in central Pennsylvania where she came to live in the twenties. She never married, dedicated her life to teaching and treasured her special gift from Carl above all else in the world till the day she died. Although I'm no longer a part of Stephanie's life, she is still very much a part of mine, as is Carl. I know that I shall always be a link between these two lovers who never really had a chance to spend their lives together and share all the wonderful things people in love share. I miss them, but through me they'll always be remembered.



"...elaborately twined, and entwined very intricate SE."



"...a pin on the other side so that she could wear it everyday next to her heart."

Special Delivery: Modern Love Token Conveys Message

By Col. Bill Murray
Reprinted from the July 15, 2002 Coin World

Many people collect love tokens. My wife Jeanne's collection consists of just one. And thereby hangs a story.

Richard Doty, in his *The MacMillan Encyclopedic Dictionary of Numismatics*, states a token is, "A coin with one or both sides planed smooth, then engraved with initials, scenes or symbols... The pieces were dubbed love tokens because many bear inscriptions that indicate they were given as tokens of esteem."

In the 1970s, I decided I would make a love token as a birthday present for Jeanne for her charm bracelet. Her birthday is in April. A dime was the right size, and one carrying the date of her birth year would be appropriate. I would smooth off the reverse and leave the obverse with the date untouched. On the reverse, I would engrave something suitable using one of those oscillating, "rat-a-tat-tat" gravers.

Straightforward and simple. Well, I eventually decided the project wasn't straightforward and the only thing simple was me. A few problems existed.

One, Jeanne's birth year is 1921, not a big mintage year for U.S. dimes. The small mintage numbers make the 1921 dime, if not rare, scarce.

My plan was to purchase an Uncirculated coin. I checked prices. My memory may be

noted for its uncertainty, but as I recall, an Uncirculated example from either Mint would have cost me a thousand bucks or more. Whatever the amount, it caused me to ponder. I love my wife, but I looked at coins of lesser grades. Good and Very Good coins were too ugly. At the Tri-Lakes Coin Club's January show in Hot Springs, Ark., I found a dealer, Robert McIntire of Jacksonville, Ark., who, that faulty memory of mine assures me, sold me a coin in "nice" Fine condition for \$40. For a piece of jewelry, this Scotsman decided Fine was fine. I had until April 14 to complete the project for her birthday.

Second, I had no graver, so after a bit of time spent searching, I purchased one.

Third, smoothing the reverse of the dime took some time, but wasn't too difficult a task. With emery cloth, silver polish and a good bit of time, I succeeded in providing a smooth, highly polished surface of which I was proud. On this I would place a suitable inscription.

Fourth, my lack of skill with tools approaches legendary proportions. Recognizing my limitations, I decided I must practice using the graver. I spent many hours practicing on pieces of sheet steel.

Fifth, then, I realized a pieces of steel was no dime, so I cut dime-size pieces, not a

simple task for me to get them exactly right. Those tiny pieces would not sit still under the graver. I made a jig with three nails in my workbench, and I practiced and practiced, many times checking results. I realized more practice was needed. Finally, I decided my skill was adequate.

Sixth, I put my beautifully smoothed dime in the jig, took graver in hand, and suddenly thought, "Sheet metal is not silver." Cheap, silver Roosevelt dimes, smoothed off, gave me properly sized silver surfaces. To make me confident, I practiced many more times.

Seventh, at long last, I was ready. I put the 1921 dime in the jig and applied the graver to the silver.

Jeanne did not get the charm for her April birthday. Practice time and uncertain skill didn't let me complete the job until late November. The birthday gift became a Christmas present. Jeanne's expression on seeing it paid well for the not too artistic result.



Tokens of Affection

By Cathy L. Clark – Reprinted from the February 2003 Numismatist

Throughout the ages, people have exchanged gifts that express and celebrate tender feelings—love, friendship, remembrance. These demonstrations of affection have included thimbles, pin cushions, rings, carved spoons and other keepsakes.










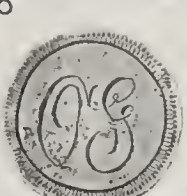

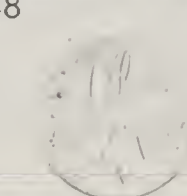





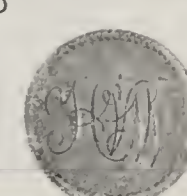





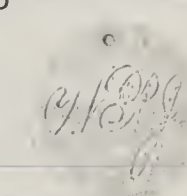
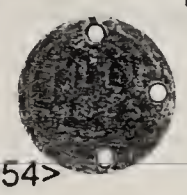






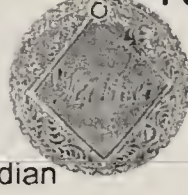



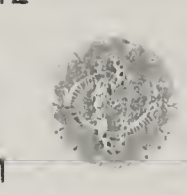


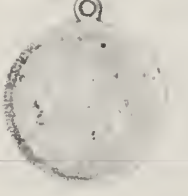
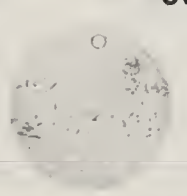

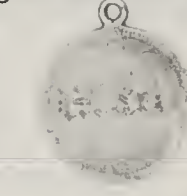










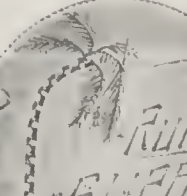

In the late 1700s in Great Britain, "engraved coins," as they were called, were given as presents. Most were copper pieces smoothed on both sides and engraved. These "love tokens" came into vogue in America around the time of the Civil War.

By definition, a love token is a circulating coin that has had the design removed from one or both sides, then is hand-engraved with initials, names, sayings, quotations, or special dates. It is a "unique, fascinating, interesting... physical expression of an affection that exists between two persons," said Lloyd Entenmann, author of *Love Tokens as Engraved Coins*.

These popular pieces were made from practically all denominations of coins, according to the Love Token Society website. "During the late 1800s, a man earned 10 cents a day. As a result, most love tokens on U.S. coins were engraved on smaller denomination coins, particularly the Liberty Seated Dime. These silver coins were softer, thus easier to engrave, than cents and nickels," the LTS website explains. "Gold coins were also used but not as frequently, considering the value that a love token on a \$1.00 gold coin represented."

The quality of the engraving can range from crude to skillful and quite ornate. Many love tokens were made into jewelry, especially necklaces, pins, earrings, bracelets, cuff links, and watch fobs.

B-1  1890 \$5.00	EFFIE B-2  1891 \$5.00	MHJ B-3  <1874> \$8.00	FDW B-4  1877 \$9.00	EMC B-5  1877 \$9.00	GWW B-6  1883 \$9.00	EMT
B-7  1884 \$9.00	CSC B-8  1888 \$9.00	GWR B-9  1875 \$10.00	WAL B-10  1890 \$11.00	RNG B-11  Canada HDime \$9.00	HWH B-12  Seated Quarter \$12.00	GB
B-13  <1853> Quarter \$14.00	MAP B-14  <185?> Quarter \$13.00	NA B-15  <1855> Quarter \$14.00	B H-1  Dime \$14.00	GLA / 1884 H-2  1886 \$12.00	JD H-3  Seated Quarter \$15.00	S
J-1  R.E. Blank \$9.00	PFL J-2  Canada Dime \$9.00	PE J-3  Canada 5 Cents \$10.00	AIC J-4  Canada 5 Cents \$10.00	GAK J-5  1877 \$10.00	WHP J-6  Canada Dime \$10.00	AFC
J-7  Canada Dime \$10.00	ERS J-8  British 6 Pence \$12.50	FSF J-9  Canada Dime \$12.50	PC J-10  1886 \$12.50	PW J-11  Canada 5 Cents \$15.00	AV J-12  Canada 5 Cents \$15.00	JEC
J-13  British 3 Pence \$9.00	ECW J-14  British 3 Pence \$9.00	MWM J-15  British 6 Pence \$9.00	FAG J-16  Canada Dime \$9.00	MC J-17  1877 \$9.00	FC J-18  Canada 5 Cents \$8.00	JMB
J-19  Canada 5 Cents \$8.00	McN J-20  British 3 Pence \$8.00	LAR J-21  Canada Dime \$8.00	LC J-22  1856 \$8.00	LVB J-23  1857 \$8.00	Blank J-24  1887 \$15.00	CEL
J-25  1861 HDime \$15.00	JCL J-26  Canada Dime \$15.00	CJM J-27  1887 \$15.00	CWS J-28  3C Nickel \$10.00	Blank J-29  British 3 Pence \$10.00	WC J-30  British 3 Pence \$10.00	JEH
J-31  Canada 5 Cents \$10.00	EAF J-32  Seated H Dime \$10.00	AC J-33  Canada Dime \$10.00	SI J-34  Canada Dime \$10.00	E J-35  <1853> \$10.00	FK J-36  1875 \$15.00	LCP

J-37  1883 \$15.00	J-38  1892 \$15.00	J-39  Canada Dime 1892 \$15.00	J-40  Seated Quarter 1892 \$12.50	J-41  Canada Quarter 1892 \$15.00	J-42  1877 Quarter \$25.00
J-43  1877 \$10.00	J-44  1882 \$10.00	J-45  1902 \$10.00	J-46  1923 \$10.00	J-47  Dime Newfid \$10.00	J-48  Germany \$10.00
P-1  R.E. Dime \$6.00	P-2  <1853> \$8.00	P-3  1875 \$9.00	P-4  1889 \$8.00	P-5  1897 \$9.00	P-6  1899 \$9.00
S-1  1875 \$12.00	S-2  1876 \$9.00	S-3  1883 \$10.00	S-4  Seated Dime \$10.00	S-5  1877 \$7.00	S-6  1877 \$9.00
T-1  <1854> H Dime \$25.00	T-2  1857 H DIME \$12.00	T-3  1875 \$9.00	T-4  1875 \$10.00	T-5  1877 \$12.00	T-6  1883 \$8.00
T-7  Dime \$15.00	T-8  Canadian Dime \$20.00	T-9  Canadian H Dime \$15.00	T-10  H Dime \$15.00	T-11  Germany \$14.00	T-12  T-1 Gold \$ \$48.00
V-1  1861 Germany \$8.00	V-2  Germany \$8.00	V-3  Germany \$8.00	V-4  Germany \$10.00	V-5  Germany \$10.00	V-6  Germany \$10.00
V-7  Germany \$8.00	V-8  Germany \$8.00	V-9  Germany \$8.00	V-10  Sardina \$12.00	V-11  1848 Venice \$12.00	V-12  Germany \$9.00
V-13  1875 \$9.00	V-14  1876 \$10.00	V-15  1843 \$14.00	V-16  Seated Quarter \$5.00	V-17  1943 Australian \$10.00	V-18  L Cent? \$15.00

Love Token Sales

Welcome to the latest issue of the Love Letter and the love token sales. If you call and are not able to reach me please leave your choices on my answering machine or voicemail. I will always get the message so you have a better chance to get the coins you want.

As always, Starting from the time the first person contacts me, until seven days have passed, anyone calling can order up to 4 tokens only. After the seven days if you wish to order more then you will be able to call and place that order. By doing this, it is hoped that more people will get an opportunity to purchase the tokens they are wanting. Any other suggestions or questions are welcomed and feedback would be appreciated.

NOTES FOR THIS SALE:

- Lot # B-1—MODERN ENGRAVING
- Lot # B-2—MODERN ENGRAVING
- Lot # H-1—ENGRAVED ON BOTH SIDES
- Lot # H-3—PINBACK REMOVED
- Lot # B-21—ENGRAVED ON BOTH SIDES
- Lot # J-21—MANY SCRATCHES
- Lot # J-23—MANY SCRATCHES
- Lot # J-41—SLIGHTLY BENT
- Lot # J-46—YES, A MERCURY DIME BUT SLIGHTLY BENT
- Lot # S-6—A FEW LIGHT SCRATCHES
- Lot # T-1—PICTORIAL SEASCAPE AND DATE OF 1885
- Lot # T-3—COUPLE OF SCRATCHES
- Lot # T-7—ENGRAVED ON BACK WITH "1893"
- Lot # T-10—ENGRAVED ON BACK WITH "ALBINA"
- Lot # T-12—COUPLE OF LIGHT SCRATCHES
- Lot # V-16—BENT AND CORRODED
- Lot # V-17—WOLD WAR 2 PICTORIAL PALM TREE

Good luck to everyone and remember if you have any amount of tokens you wish to sell don't hesitate to call me and we will get them into the sale and out to everyone in the club. — Steve Tompkins, LTS Sales Manager

Ordering Love Tokens

Please make checks payable to:
Steve Tompkins
P.O. Box 1946
Sequim, WA 98382
Cell: (360) 670-9688
smt115@aol.com

In remitting, please do not forget to include the postage as follows:
Orders up to \$50.00 add \$2.00;
up to \$100.00, add \$3.25;
up to \$150.00, add \$4.00;
up to \$200.00, add \$5.00;
up to \$300.00, add \$5.50;
up to \$400.00, add \$7.75;
over \$400.00, add \$9.25.

Love Letter

Love Token Society Newsletter



Dr. Robert C. Newhouse
5840 Tuttle Cove Road
Manhattan, KS 66503

INSIDE

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Statement

pgs. 3,4,5-COINS

pgs. 6,7-Updated
Love Token Names

pg. 8-How to order



October 2004

No. 215

Love Letter

Love Token Society Newsletter

NEW

Hello, my name is Cindy Jeffrey, and I just started doing the layout for the Love Letter newsletter.

My "real" job is a video producer/director with the Educational Communications Center located on the campus of Kansas State University. You may reach me at cinraney@kus.edu if you have ideas or articles for the newsletter.

This is my first issue, and already my knowledge of Love Tokens has increased 100%! I look forward to learning more from all of you.



NOTICE TO ALL LOVE TOKEN SOCIETY MEMBERS

Please be thinking about how you may be of service to the Love Token Society. The current officers and volunteers have served in their present positions for many, many years and would welcome some relief. If you have some spare time and would like to make a very meaningful contribution, please consider serving in any of the current positions.

Any position from President on down should be considered. a ballot will be printed in the December issue of the newsletter. If you have an interest in any position and would like more information, you may contact any of the current officers. We need relief and fresh ideas to keep our society vibrant, active and current. Please give it some serious consideration.

We would like to see NEW names on the December ballot!

PRESIDENT

Carol Harmes
5145 Admiral Place
Sarasota, FL 34231
(941) 922-3787

VICE PRESIDENT

Pat Hammond
P.O. Box 12471
Albany, NY 12212
eirak@mac.com

SECRETARY/TREASURER

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sidgale@charter.net

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rcn@ksu.edu

LOVE TOKEN SALES

Steve Tompkins
P.O. Box 1946
Sequim, WA 98382
(360) 457-4992
smt115@aol.co

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

General Funds		
Balance As Of August 15, 2004		\$4,779.35
Receipts		
New Members	\$37.50	
Membership Dues	\$87.50	
Interest	\$ 2.11	
Total Receipts	\$127.11	
Subtotal		\$4,906.46
Expenses		
Check #1062 Robert C. Newhouse -LL# 214		
Kinko's	\$234.31	
USPS	\$111.00	
Newsletter Layout	\$ 75.00	
International Postage	\$ 9.77	
Total Expenses	(\$420.08)	
Balance As Of	October 15, 2004	\$4,486.38
Permanent Fund	1 year certificate of deposit	\$1,200.00
Citizens Bank & Trust		
Mandeville. La. 70448		
TOTAL Love Token Society Funds		\$5,686.38

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

#1087 Gladis Townsend	Membership Report	
1333 Gears Rd. #2814	Membership as of August 15, 2004	180
Houston, TX 77067	New Members 3	
#1088 Kathryn K. Rossman	Membership Renewel 2	
590 Hwy 105 #310	Membership as of October 15, 2004	185
Monument, CO 80132		
#1089 Lynn Ward		
230 Lee St.		
Fayetteville, GA 30214		

Aug 27, 2004

Dear Ms. Decker,

























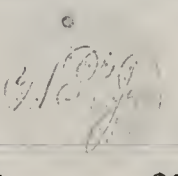
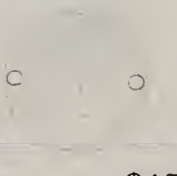
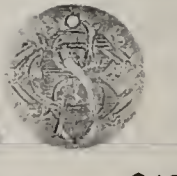




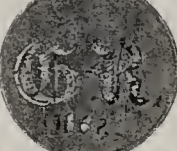







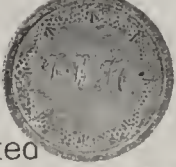





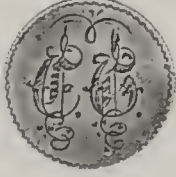



I enjoyed your article "Love Tokens: Two of a Kind?" in the August newsletter. While I am not looking for possible two-of-a-kind tokens, I would appreciate knowing if any member has the other half of a copper token I have in my collection.









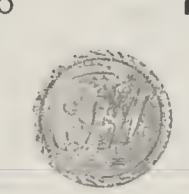
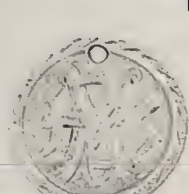
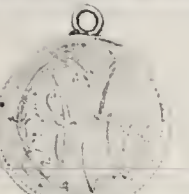
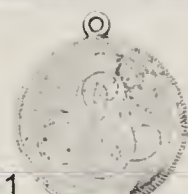
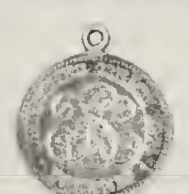

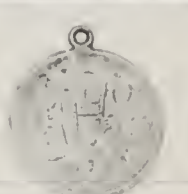





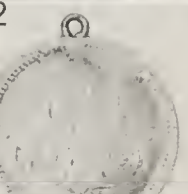
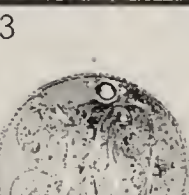

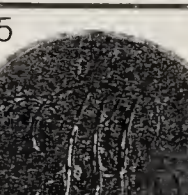
My "half" is shaped thusly: It carries the crude engraving 5M/Yh

John Dabbert
5207 N. dearing Rd.
Parma, MI 49269
(517) 282-4155



A-1 HC 1879 \$12.00	A-2 Design 1856 \$12.00	A-3 Mamie pict 1875 \$30.00	A-4 Meb 1876 \$15.00	A-5 LM 1876 \$8.00	A-6 Nettie 1882 \$12.00
A-7 Mabel 1882 \$20.00	A-8 JEJ 1882 \$8.00	A-9 Watch 1883 \$16.00	A-10 Lizzie Healer 1884 \$20.00	A-11 Emma 1887 \$18.00	A-12 Hattie 1888 \$22.00
A-13 RWS 1876 \$15.00	A-14 GVB V-Nickel 1883 \$22.00	A-15 FF Quarter <1854> \$16.00	A-16 AM Half 1870 \$30.00	A-17 WSA Mexico 8R 1841 \$25.00	
B-1 EFFIE 1890 \$5.00	B-2 MHJ 1891 \$5.00	B-3 FDW <1874> \$8.00	B-4 EMC 1877 \$9.00	B-5 GWW 1877 \$9.00	B-6 EMT 1883 \$9.00
B-7 CSC 1884 \$9.00	B-8 GWR 1888 \$9.00	B-9 WAL 1875 \$10.00	B-10 RNG 1890 \$11.00	B-11 HWH Canada HDime \$9.00	B-13 MAP <1853> Quarter \$14.00
B-14 NA <185?> Quarter \$13.00	J-1 PFL R.E. Blank \$9.00	J-2 PE Canada Dime \$9.00	J-3 AIC Canada 5 Cents \$10.00	J-4 GAK Canada 5 Cents \$10.00	J-5 WHP 1877 \$10.00
J-6 AFC Canada Dime \$10.00	J-7 ERS Canada Dime \$10.00	J-8 FSF British 6 Pence \$12.50	J-9 AV Canada 5 Cents \$15.00	J-10 JEC Canada 5 Cents \$15.00	J-11 ECW British 3 Pence \$9.00
J-12 MWM British 3 Pence \$9.00	J-13 MC Canada Dime \$9.00	J-14 FC 1877 \$9.00	J-15 JMB Canada 5 Cents \$8.00	J-16 McN Canada 5 Cents \$8.00	J-17 LAR British 3 Pence \$8.00

J-18  Canada Dime \$8.00	J-19  1856 \$8.00	J-20  1887 \$15.00	J-21  1861 HDime \$15.00	J-22  Canada Dime \$15.00	J-23  1887 \$15.00
J-24  British 3 Pence \$10.00	J-25  British 3 Pence \$10.00	J-26  Canada 5 Cents \$10.00	J-27  Canada Dime \$10.00	J-28  Canada Dime \$10.00	J-29  <1853> \$10.00
J-30  1875 \$15.00	J-31  1892 \$15.00	J-32  Canada Dime \$15.00	J-33  Seated Quarter \$12.50	J-34  Canada Quarter \$15.00	J-35  1877 Quarter \$25.00
J-36  1877 \$10.00	J-37  1902 \$10.00	P-1  R.E. Dime \$6.00	P-2  <1853> \$8.00	P-3  1897 \$9.00	P-4  1899 \$9.00
S-1  1876 \$9.00	S-2  1883 \$10.00	S-3  Seated Dime \$10.00	S-4  1877 \$9.00	T-1  1871 H Dime \$15.00	T-2  1872 H Dime \$13.00
T-3  H Dime \$12.00	T-4  <1853> H Dime \$12.00	T-5  T-1 Gold \$ \$45.00	T-6  1865 3C Nickel \$22.00	T-7  1862 IHC \$25.00	T-8  1859 IHC \$22.00
T-9  1883 V Nickel \$28.00	T-10  Lynn/7-4-93 2 Cent \$12.00	T-11  Seated Quarter \$12.00	T-12  <1855> Quarter \$18.00	T-13  British 6 Pence \$8.00	T-14  Canada Dime \$10.00
T-15  Seated Dime \$12.00	T-16  Seated Dime \$10.00	T-17  Seated Dime \$12.00	T-18  1857 \$11.00	T-19  1862 \$11.00	T-20  1875 \$11.00
T-21  1875 \$9.00	T-22  1875 \$9.00	T-23  1875 \$10.00	T-24  1877 \$12.00	T-25  1883 \$12.00	T-26  1884 \$15.00

T-27  1886 \$9.00	EHJ	T-28  1886 \$13.00	FJC	T-29  1887 \$10.00	SW	T-30  1891 \$11.00	ARR	T-31 	
T-32  1862 \$9.00	L	T-33  1883 \$10.00	OAP	T-34  Germany \$10.00		T-35  3C Silver \$35.00	ELW		
V-1  1876 \$10.00	MBB	V-2  1867 France \$12.00	CM	V-3  1851 Sweden \$12.00	AS	V-4  Germany \$9.00	KS	V-5  Germany \$9.00	KM
V-6  Germany \$9.00	CH	V-7  Germany \$9.00	SH	V-8  Germany \$9.00	ER	V-9  Germany \$9.00	MS	V-10  Germany \$15.00	Lilly
V-11  Germany \$10.00	TR	V-12  Germany \$10.00	GL	V-13  Germany \$10.00	KSt	V-14  Seated Quarter \$5.00	FIB	V-15  L Cent? \$15.00	JH
PLEASE SEE THE NOTES FOR THE SALE FOR MORE INFO ON VARIOUS LOTS									

TERM	MEANING
Just a date	Engraved on a U.S. dime
T-1,T-2,T-3	Types of \$1 gold coins listed in the redbook
R.E.	Engraved on a coin with a reeded edge
design	no letters engraved just a pattern or geometric shape
pict	A pictorial or picture engraved of something
Seated	U.S. coin of the seated liberty design (1838-1891)
<1853>	Arrows at the date on the coin
IHC	U.S. Indian Head cent (1859-1909)
3C Nickel	U.S. 3 CENT Nickel (1865-1889)
3C Silver	U.S. 3 CENT Silver (1851-1873)
V Nickel	U.S. Liberty Head Nickel (1883-1912)
JER	Bold capitol letters in the order I think the engraving to be
blank	Reverse of the token is blank, no engraving or coin design
LC	U.S. Large cent (1793-1857)
Barber	U.S. Liberty Head design (1892-1915)
H Dime	Engraved on a 5 cent silver coin
bust	U.S. Bust coin pre 1838
shield	U.S. nickel (1866-1883)

UPDATED LIST OF LOVE TOKEN NAMES

CAROL DECKER

Aage	1	Clyde	1	Gillie	1	Liesel	1	Pauline	1
Aaron	2	Clydie	1	Girty	1	Lila	2	Pearl	1
Abbie	1	Connie	1	Grace	3	Lilian	1	Peggy	1
Abe	1	Cookie	1	Grahm	1	Lilla	1	Perle	1
Absalon	1	Cora	2	Grant	1	Lillie	7	Perry	2
Ada	2	Cordelia	1	Gravelina	1	Lily	1	Phebe	1
Adam	1	Cornelia	1	Gretchen	1	Linnie	1	Phil	2
Adda	1	Currena	1	Gus	2	Lisa	1	Phila	2
Addie	1	Curt	1	Gussie	2	Livia	1	Phillie	1
Adela	1	Daisy	2	Gusta	1	Liza	1	Philly	1
Adelade	1	Dame	2	Gustave	1	Lizzie	6	Philopena	1
Adelia	2	Dan	2	Hallie	1	Lloyd	1	Phyllis	1
Adolph	1	Danger	1	Hanchen	1	Loe	1	Pliny	1
Aggie	2	Dave	2	Handy	1	Logan	1	Pod	1
Agnar	1	David	1	Hank	1	Lon	1	Prutch	1
Agnes	4	Davie	1	Hanna	1	Lorenzo	1	Rackus	1
Aimee	1	Dehert	1	Hannah	2	Lottie	6	Ralie	1
Albert	2	Del	1	Hanne	1	Lou	7	Ralph	3
Alberto	1	Della	2	Hans	1	Louis	2	Ray	2
Albine	1	Dema	1	Harley	1	Louisa	3	Raymond	1
Alex	2	Dena	2	Harold	1	Loulie	1	Redihingh	1
Alf	1	Dennie	1	Harrie	2	Lucie	1	Reuben	1
Alfred	3	Dick	3	Harriet	1	Lucky	1	Ria	1
Alice	6	Dins	1	Harris	1	Lucy	4	Rial	1
Alida	1	Dirgie	1	Harry	5	Lucy Ella	1	Richard	1
Allie	2	Doddie	1	Harvey	1	Lue	1	Richie	1
Alma	2	Dolly	1	Hattie	8	Luise	1	Rill	1
Alonzo	1	Don	1	Hazelle	1	Lulu	4	Rival	1
Alta	1	Donnie	1	Hebe	2	Lydia	2	Rivkah	1
Alvah	1	Dora	2	Helen	2	Lydie	1	Robbie	1
Amanda	1	Dorfy	2	Helene	1	Lym	1	Robert	2
Amelia	2	Dorothy	3	Helna	1	Mabel	4	Robin	1
Amitie	1	Dottie	1	Henry	4	Mac	2	Robinson	1
Amy	3	Doyle	1	Herbert	1	Macy	1	Ron	1
Anabella	1	Duke	1	Hermie	1	Madge	3	Rosa	1
Anabelle	1	Dumps	1	Hock	1	Maggie	6	Rose	8
Angelina	1	Dutchy	1	Hollie	1	Malcolm	1	Rosie	2
Angie	1	Earl	1	Holly	1	Mame	3	Roxie	1
Anita	1	Ed	3	Homer	1	Mamie	3	Ruby	2
Ann	1	Eddie	4	Hoppy	1	Manda	1	Rudie	1
Anna	8	Edessa	1	Howard	1	Marcia	1	Rudolf	1
Anne	1	Edie	1	Hugo	1	Marcie	1	Russ	1
Annette	1	Edith	7	Hulda	1	Margie	1	Ruth	4
Annie	13	Edmund	1	Hutch	1	Margret	1	Ryan	1
Ansel	1	Edna	3	Ida	11	Marguerite	1	Sadie	2
Archebald	1	Edward	3	Idus	1	Maria	1	Sallie	3
Ardine	2	Effie	2	Ingeborg	1	Marie	2	Sam	3
Arlie	1	Efrain	1	Ingrid	1	Marion	1	Sandy	1
Arthur	6	Elbridge	1	Ira	1	Maris	1	Sanford	1
Augusta	1	Eldred	1	Irene	3	Martha	1	Sarah	4
Authur	2	Elgin	2	Irvina	1	Martie	1	Saucy	1
Barta	1	Elias	1	Ivor	1	Mary	15	Scott	1
Beatrice	1	Elisabetta	1	Jack	4	Mary Ann	1	Scottie	1
Bell	2	Elise	3	Jacobs	1	Matie	1	Selina	1
Bella	2	Eliza	4	Jake	1	Mattie	2	Seym	1
Belle	4	Elizabeth	3	James	2	Maud	3	Sibyl	1
Ben	1	Ell	1	Jan	1	Maude	1	Sidney	2
Bert	6	Ella	10	Jane	2	Maudie	1	Sissie	1

Bertha	2	Ellen	1	Janice	1	Maurice	1	Sophia	1
Bertie	5	Ellie	1	Janne	1	Maxie	1	Sophie	3
Berto	1	Elmer	1	Jason	1	Maxine	2	Stella	1
Beryl	1	Elmira	1	Jay	1	May	15	Steve	1
Bessie	7	Else	1	Jean	3	Medora	1	Sue	1
Beth	1	Elsie	1	Jeannette	1	Meg	1	Sus	1
Betty	1	Elzie	1	Jeff	1	Melanie	1	Susie	2
Beulah	1	Emelia	1	Jennie	6	Melinda	1	Syd	1
Biddy	1	Emery	1	Jer	1	Melissa	1	Sylvia	2
Bill	1	Emily	4	Jerome	1	Mertie	1	Tantz	2
Billie	1	Emma	10	Jerry	1	Meta	1	Tasso	1
Billy	1	Emmie	4	Jesse	1	Miah	1	Ted	1
Birdie	1	Erna	1	Jessie	6	Mildred	1	Teddy	1
Birney	1	Ernest	4	Jim	4	Millie	2	Tena	1
Birt	1	Ernie	2	Jimmie	2	Milton	1	Tenia	1
Blanch	1	Essie	3	Jimmy	1	Minna	2	Tess	1
Blanche	2	Esther	1	Jinks	1	Minnie	11	Theo	1
Blanchie	1	Estrid	1	Joaquin	1	Miriam	1	Theresa	2
Bob	2	Etchell	1	Jody	1	Mollie	2	Thomas	2
Bots	1	Ethel	5	Joe	7	Molly	1	Thora	1
Brownie	1	Etta	3	Johan	1	Morrie	1	Tid	1
Bruno	1	Ettie	2	John	5	Morry	1	Tillie	3
Bubert	1	Eva	8	Johney	1	Moses	1	Tiny	1
Burnette	1	Eve	1	Johnnie	1	Murch	1	Toddy	1
Burton	1	Eveline	1	Johnny	1	Murray	1	Tom	2
Cade	1	Everette	1	Johny	1	Myra	1	Topsy	1
Cal	1	Eyda	1	Jolly	1	Myrna	1	Tot	1
Calle	1	Ezra	1	Jone	1	Myrtie	1	Trilby	1
Callie	1	Fannie	7	Joseph	1	Myrtle	1	Troly	1
Camille	1	Fay	1	Josie	4	Nannie	1	Trots	1
Carl	4	Fayette	1	Julia	5	Natalie	1	Veri	1
Carlo	1	Fenton	1	Julie	1	Ned	4	Vessa	1
Carolina	2	Flo Belle	1	Julius	1	Nell	2	Victor	2
Caroline	1	Flora	3	Karen	1	Nelley	1	Vira	1
Carrie	6	Florence	2	Kate	2	Nellie	7	Wallace	1
Carroll	1	Floss	1	Katie	5	Nelly	1	Wallie	1
Cate	2	Flossie	3	Kitt	1	Nero	1	Walter	4
Cato	1	Ford	1	Kittie	3	Netta	2	Warren	3
Cecelia	1	Forty	1	Lalia	1	Nettie	2	Warrie	1
Cecil	2	Frances	2	Lally	1	Neva	1	Wess	1
Celia	1	Frank	7	Laura	2	Neville	1	Wiley	1
Chappie	1	Frankie	1	Laville	1	Nina	1	Will	7
Charles	1	Fred	10	Lavinia	1	Nita	1	Willa	1
Charley	2	Frenchy	1	Leana	1	Noel	1	William	1
Charlie	8	Frida	1	Leander	1	Nora	2	Willie	3
Charlos	1	Fritz	2	Leck	1	Norma	1	Willis	1
Charlotte	1	Funkie	1	Lectie	1	Octavia	1	Winnie	1
Chas	2	Garrie	1	Lee	1	Oliver	1	Woodie	1
Chester	1	Gates	1	Lem	1	Olivia	1	Woodsie	1
Chrissie	1	Gay	1	Len	2	Ollie	1	Woozel	1
Christian	1	Geiger	1	Lena	1	Ora	1	Yassar	1
Claire	2	Genie	1	Leon	2	Osborne	1	Yoder	1
Clara	5	Geo	2	Leone	1	Oscar	3	Zalda	1
Clare	1	George	7	Leslie	1	Otis	1		
Clarence	4	Georgia	1	Letitia	1	Otto	1		
Clarice	1	Georgie	3	Lettie	1	Pat	2		
Claude	1	Gertie	1	Lia	1	Patsy	1		
Claudie	1	Gertrude	2	Lide	1	Pattie	1		
Cliff	1	Gerty	1	Lucill	1	Paul	1		

WWII names: Del, Dick, Ella, Harry, Irene(2), Jean, Jim(2), Maxine, Miriam, Peggy, Ralph, Rose(2), Sue,
Ted, Walter(3), Warren, and Woodie

by Carol Decker

Love
Love Token Society Newsletter
Letter

Dr. Robert C. Newhouse
5840 Tuttle Cove Rd.
Manhattan, KS 66503

Welcome to the latest issue of the Love Letter and the love token sales. Even if you call and are not able to reach me please leave your choices on my answering machine or voicemail. I will always get the message so you have a better chance to get the coins you want. I WILL STRESS AGAIN, DO NOT JUST SEND PAYMENT FOR COINS. YOU MUST PLACE THE ORDER BY PHONE OR E-MAIL.

As always, Starting from the time the first person contacts me, until seven days have passed, anyone calling can order up to four tokens only. After the seven days if you wish to order more then you will be able to call and place that order. By doing this, it is hoped that more people will get an opportunity to purchase the tokens they are wanting. Any other suggestions or questions are welcomed and feedback would be appreciated.

Good luck to everyone and remember if you have any amount of tokens you wish to sell don't hesitate to call me and we will get them into the sale and out to everyone in the club

NOTES FOR THIS SALE:

Lot # A-1 – LOOP REMOVED
Lot # A-3 – BEAUTIFUL PIECE!
Lot # A-4 – LOOP REMOVED
Lot # A-9 – WAS PART OF A BROACH
Lot # A-13 – STICKPIN
Lot # B-1 – MODERN ENGRAVING
Lot # B-2 – MODERN ENGRAVING
Lot # J-18 – MANY SCRATCHES
Lot # S-4 – A FEW LIGHT SCRATCHES
Lot # T-8 – SLIGHTLY DAMAGED
Lot # T-10 – STAMPED NOT ENGRAVED
Lot # T-11 – OBV SCRATCHES
Lot # T-31 – FOB: (1) ENGRAVED W/MATHILDE,
(3) STAMPED W/ GERMAN SAYINGS
Lot # T-34 – ENGRAVED W/ VERGISSMEINNIDIT
Lot # V-14 – BENT AND CORRODED
Lot # V-15 – COPPER, LARGE CENT SIZE COIN SMOOTH REV.

Ordering Love Tokens

Please make checks payable to:
Steve Tompkins
P.O. Box 1946
Sequim, WA 98382
(360) 457-4992 home
(360) 670-9688 cell
smt115@aol.com

In remitting, please do not forget
to include the postage as follows:
Orders

up to \$50 - add \$2.00
up to \$100 - add \$3.25
up to \$150 - add \$4.00
up to \$200 - add \$5.00
up to \$300 - add \$5.50
up to \$400 - add \$7.75
OVER \$400 - add \$9.25

Pushed-out coin
1908 Barber Quarter



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INSIDE

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Statement

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A to Z

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Backwards!
- Letter to Editor

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the Coin

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- Ballot

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& Membership

December 2004
No. 216

Love Letter

Love Token Society Newsletter

Annual Meeting and Elections at FUN Meeting

JANUARY 14th - 16th
Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County
Convention Center
1950 Eisenhower Blvd.
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

LOVE TOKEN Society Meeting -
Friday, Jan. 14th at 3:00 p.m.

This year marks the passing of two years for those who have served LTS as officers. Although the positions of editor and LTS sales are technically appointed positions, I like to consider them officers. Many thanks go out to these dedicated individuals.

A ballot is included in this newsletter with an area for write-in candidates. The ballot should be received by January 7, 2005. Please send ballots to Sid Gale (address on ballot, see page 7) to cast your vote. You may also call or email Sid. Any volunteers or write in nominations will be submitted for voting at the FUN show meeting. The vote will be held at the Friday, January 14th meeting at 3:00 p.m.

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Financial Statement

General Funds

Balance As Of October 15, 2004

\$4,486.38

Receipts

New Members	\$12.50
Membership Dues	\$75.50
Interest	\$ 4.01

Total Receipts \$91.51

Subtotal \$4,577.89

Expenses

CK #1063 ANA Club Dues - 3 years \$79.00

CK #1064 Robert C. Newhouse -LL# 215

Kinko's \$187.70

Newsletter Layout \$ 90.00

USPS \$ 37.00

Misc. Postage \$ 7.28 \$321.98

CK #1065 FUN Dues \$ 15.00

Total Expenses (\$415.98)

Balance As Of December 10, 2004 \$4,161.91

Permanent Fund 1-year certificate of deposit \$1,200.00
Citizens Bank & Trust
Mandeville. La. 70448

TOTAL Love Token Society Funds \$5,361.91

Welcome New Members

#1087 Wayne Stafford
3004 Connett Ave. #1090
Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Membership Report

Membership as of October 15, 2004 185

New Members 1

Membership as of December 9, 2004 186

Notes from the Secretary

This year the FUN show will be held in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, on January 13th - January 16th. Our Love Token Society Meeting will be on Friday, January 14th, at 3:00 p.m.

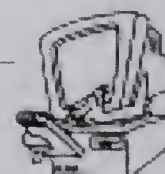
Dues for 2005 are due. Please send your dues ASAP.(Form on pg. 7)

Thank you.

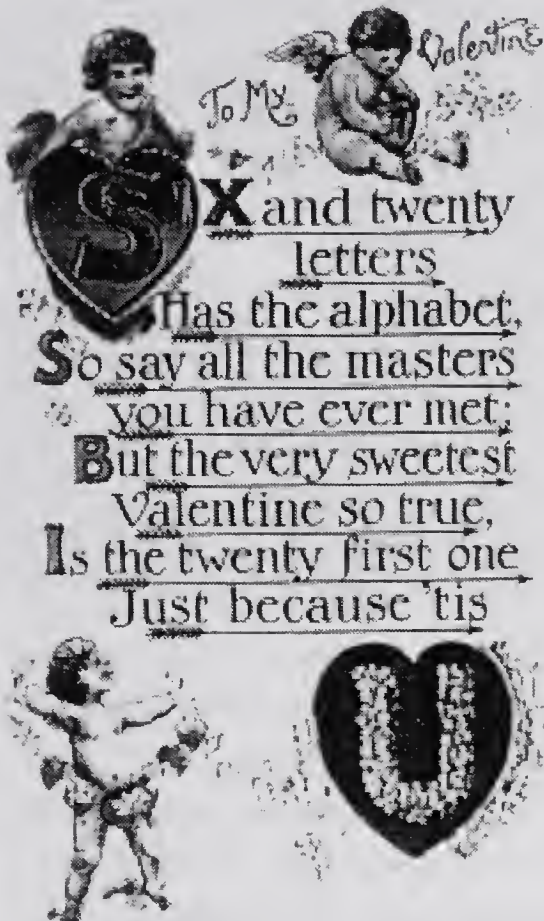
Sid Gale, Secretary

Newsletter layout & design
Cindy Jeffrey

15850 Galilee Rd. Olsburg, KS 66520
cinraney@ksu.edu



A survey was recently conducted on love tokens bearing first names and the final results were published in the October 2004 newsletter. Included in this month's issue is a listing of single initial love tokens collected over a fifteen-year period. It can be concluded that single initials correspond to first names rather than family surnames. Correlations drawn between the surveys support this as well as a study of bracelets with single initial love tokens. Since many bracelets are comprised of love tokens given by family members, the variety among the initials suggests first names were used. If all or most initials had matched, there would be a case made for last name use (Or they could still be first names, with a family desiring matching monograms, Ex. Mary, Mabel, Milton, etc.).



"M" is by far the most common single initial love token and not surprising since Mary, May, Maggie, and Minnie were all very popular names of the period. "N" by contrast is not nearly as abundant. Even though Nellie was fairly popular, there are relatively few other "N" name love tokens. Similarly "I" has a relatively limited representation of names, but Ida was popular enough to help make up in quantity.

"O", "V", "Y", and "Z" had a minimal showing on the name survey and are equally represented with few single initial love tokens. "Q", "U", and "X" are all nonexistent on the name survey and accounts for few or none corresponding on the initial survey. The "Q" is quite difficult to find even though three are listed. Two originated from the same family and it is a good thing that "Q" was generous enough to donate two gifts. Interestingly one is the traditional block letter "Q" and the other is a script "Q" resembling something more like a 2. All three examples were obtained in the fifteenth year of collecting, confirming their true rarity.

One surprise was the amount of "K" initials. With few "K" names in use, Katie and Kittie were apparently popular enough to make up the difference. The initial "W" was large in number when compared against names beginning with "W." But, one person's "W" could be another's "M" just turned upside down. There is some leeway for artistic interpretation on this one.

Better conclusions might be drawn from a larger survey, but even with those numbers there is still room for random chance. Remember it was up to the giver to decide whether one, two or three initials or even a name would best serve to represent them on this memento, the love token. Such randomness itself can skew results as the ratio of choices is variable. Still, larger overall trends and conclusions can be surmised and the data explains for those trying to collect the alphabet, why some initials are so much harder to find than others.

A - 21	F - 12	K - 10	P - 12	U - 1
B - 20	G - 9	L - 18	Q - 3	V - 1
C - 14	H - 18	M - 34	R - 10	W - 17
D - 14	I - 5	N - 8	S - 9	X - 0
E - 12	J - 7	O - 3	T - 10	

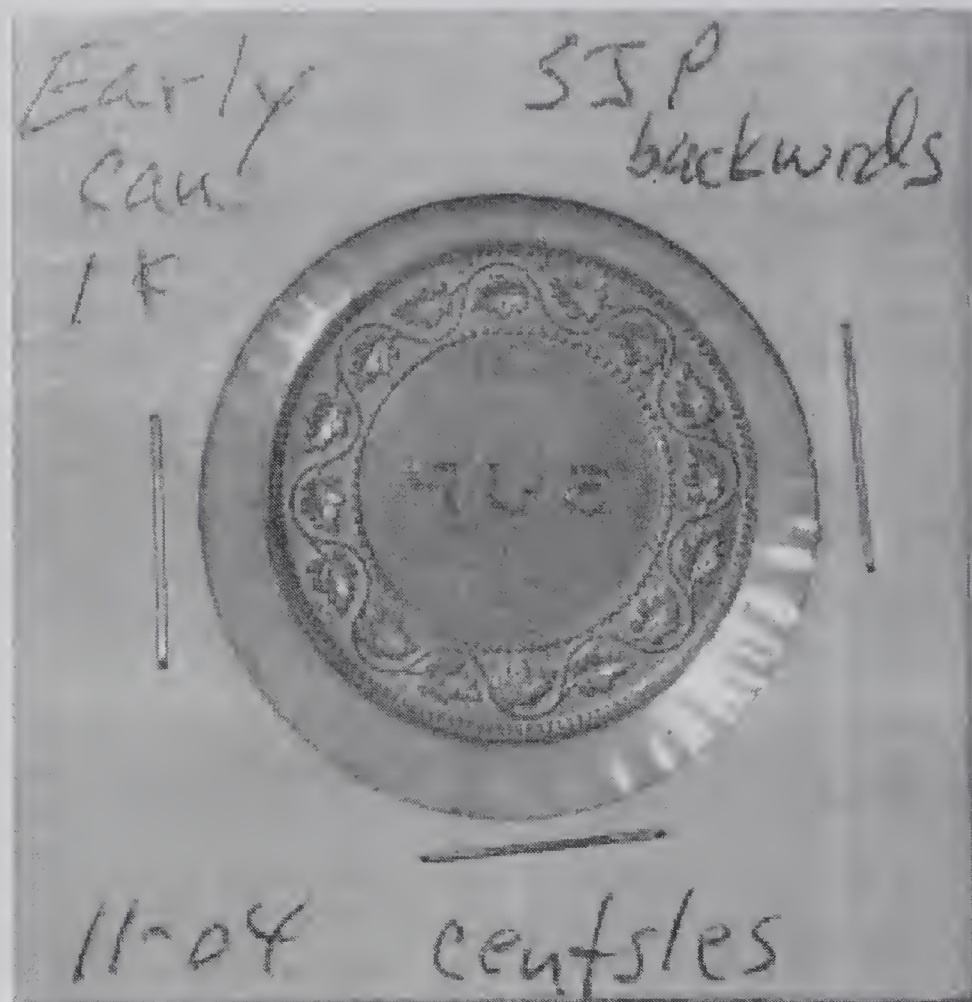
~~Carol Prokop - Owner & Designer~~
~~Art au Natural~~
~~International Bead, Jewelry & Antiquities~~
~~P.O. Box 22046~~
~~Sarasota, FL 34276~~
~~Cell: 239-410-8261~~
~~Voice mail: 888-227-2663~~
~~Email: artaunatural@aol.com~~
~~http://www.artaunatural.com~~

But it's backwards!

But it's backwards!

Ernie Turnes

I recently bought a love token unlike any in my collection. It is an early cent from Canada with the center of the reverse smoothed and the initials PJS engraved left to right in block letters (36 point Venus Medium Extended). At least that's what I thought. The uncertainty is what makes this piece so different. That uncertainty was created by the initials being engraved as a mirror image. When I held the piece in front of a mirror I saw that I was right about the letters, but wrong about their order. The initials were actually SJP.



Why would someone have a love token made this way? In his book *Love Tokens As Engraved Coins*, Lloyd Entenmann offers two possible explanations. He states that in the time period of English love tokens, it was customary to seal envelopes and legal documents with a special hot wax. Before the wax cooled a person would make an impressed seal, usually with a finger ring, into the soft wax. An engraved coin could serve the same purpose, and with the mirror image engraving, the letters could then be read correctly. Enenmann's second explanation was that the person wanted the coin to be held at a mirror to read it. Why? Who knows?

I'm curious to learn if our members have mirror image pieces in their collections and have other explanations as to why they were made.

Letter to the editor

I've said in these pages, several times, that it pays to let people know what you collect. For me, the latest proof was last night at a meeting of a local club that I sometimes attend. A member came up to me and said that another member (and mutual friend named Jack) had told him that I collect love tokens. When I said that I do, he showed me a beautiful \$3 gold piece engraved JCB on the reverse. His asking price was a bargain, but I tried to negotiate it lower anyway, I wasn't successful, but was happy to give him his asking price. It filled a hole in the type set of love tokens that I'm working on.

Jack's father also has an engraved \$3 coin that is a family piece. He is willing to sell and he knows I'm interested. So let people (that you can trust) know what you collect. Good things can happen when you do.

Ernie Turnes

In early 1882, Edward, his wife Anna, and daughters, Elizabeth, Mary, and Edith were gathered around the kitchen table wondering what would be an appropriate gift for Edward's parents' 50th wedding anniversary. Since it is the Golden Anniversary, something in gold is the obvious choice. Edward thinks a lot of his parents and wants to honor them with a special, unique and imaginative gift. His wife and three daughters think the world of the older couple and agree with him. However, the family is split on what the golden wedding gift should be. Edward, feeling he owes all his success in life to being raised with proper values and moral integrity, thinks the perfect gift would be a perfect coin of gold of the highest value. This coin would be presented along with a specially made solid gold teapot. His second oldest daughter, Mary, agrees with him.

Anna, his wife and Edith, his youngest daughter, think the appropriate gift should be a matching set of gold earrings with the names of Edward's parents engraved on them. They believe that these should be given along with a specially engraved solid gold serving platter. Caught in the middle was the eldest daughter, Elizabeth.

There is merit in both sides. The engraved \$20 proof and the teapot have a special significance in the elderly parents life. The teapot was part of a tea service set that cost \$20 in 1832. It was the elder Edward's first gift to his beloved wife as a married couple. The specially engraved serving platter and golden wedding rings also have special significance, as the elder Edward vowed to serve his wife, Sarah, the finest that life could offer.

Elizabeth suggests a compromise between the two ideas. Why not serve the specially engraved proof \$20 on the specially made solid gold platter. The idea has its own brilliance because it incorporates elements from both golden anniversary suggestions. The opposing sides take Elizabeth's idea to heart and adopt it.

The son might be a banker, lawyer, doctor, financier or railroad magnate. He sees a lot of bags marked \$20 and decides rather than trying to find a perfect coin from those in circulation, to go to the Philadelphia mint for perfect coin. When he is at the mint, he sees his younger brother Thomas. The brothers stare at each other because it has been years since they have seen each other. Edward asks Thomas what he is doing there. Thomas explains that he is a numismatist and acquires specimens of both the proof and uncirculated coins each year from each of the various mints – Philadelphia, San Francisco, new Orleans, and Carson City.

Twenty-five years earlier, Edward's younger brother, Thomas, left home over the objections of his father. Thomas wanted to make his own way in the world on his own merit. The older Edward wanted him in the family business along with his older brother. Edward (the eldest son) was expected to start learning the ropes so he could one day take over the family business. Although he wanted to see the world, he respected the elder Edward's wishes. Thomas on the other hand, knew that he would always be compared with older brother, Edward. Scrutinized intensely to the point where they might be at each other's throats. Both young Edward and Thomas realized that one of them had to leave or they would risk killing the brotherly love between them. Since Edward was already in the business, they decided it was Thomas who would leave.

The day Thomas chose to leave was the day after his father and mother's 25th wedding anniversary on May 9, 1857. The brothers knew it would break their mother's heart, but it couldn't be helped. They were doing it for the love of the family as they did not want to risk destroying the family and the business. Thomas and Edward's wedding gift was a specially engraved 1857 dollar along with an eighteen inch by one foot solid silver platter. Both sons truly loved their parents and wanted to honor them with this special, unique gift. But day ended sadly - as Thomas left.

(to be continued in the next issue of "Love Letter")

Pushed-out Designs

by Michele Orzano, COIN WORLD staff

Ask someone for a definition of an altered coin and you'll likely get as many different answers as the people you question. Some altered coins are clearly made to defraud or confuse collectors. Among these are coins that have had a numeral in the date changed, a Mint mark added or the surface enhanced to make the coin appear to be a higher grade. Some altered coins are made as collectibles and many collectors enjoy collecting them.

One type of altered coin involves the design being pushed out - creating an ultra three-dimensional look. Sometimes specially made dies were used to push out an altogether different design using the host coin's metal. "Pushed-out" coins were popular in the late 1960s and early 1970s, although the process by which they are created is older, dating to the early 20th century.

Gary Fillers, former owner of Chattanooga Coin and Stamp Co., in Chattanooga, TN, knows very well how popular these were. Fillers said he sent a pair of dies featuring the head of a woman as well as Morgan and Eisenhower silver dollars to the Roger Williams Mint. The private mint struck between 50,000 to 100,000 of these pushed-out coins. Fillers said he's seen them in every denomination from cent through dollar.

He said his company sold these from 1971 to 1974 and they often showed up on the bourse floors of shows around the country. Those pieces probably used dies similar to or produced by George Keppler in the early 1900s. In a copy of an application for a patent that Keppler filed with the United States Patent Office, he described an apparatus used to make pushed-out coins. "It is an invention for "stamping articles from flat metal stock. It is especially intended for stamping in high relief images and the like on metal plates or discs for jewelry or other purposes. The invention comprises a die proper shaped according to the image which is to be produced and having at each side a guide, so as to hold a slide which fits over the metal place constituting the work and holds the edges thereof, the slide having an opening therein through which the plunger is movable."

Past offerings of exnumia dealer Rich Hartzog are typical. He has offered several pushed-out and pop-out coins on his Web site www.exonumia.com. Among the pieces he has offered are Indian Head cents featuring a bust of an Indian chief in full headdress. A Lincoln cent is the base for a likeness of Theodore Roosevelt, while a 1909 Liberty Head 5 cent coin features the head of a woman representing Liberty. A 1915-D Lincoln cent has Lincoln's portrait pushed out from the surface of the coin, and the portrait of a 1904 Indian Head cent is pushed from the coin's surface and a hole is at the top of the portrait as this piece might have been used as jewelry.

Occasionally, Coin World receives pushed-out coins from readers who wonder whether they might have found a rare Mint item. The coins are genuine, but the alteration is purely private in origin. There is nothing in the minting process that would permit such coins to be produced.



COIN WORLD, June 10, 2002



LTS Officer Ballot

President:

☐ Pat Hammond

Vice President:

☐ Ernie Turnes

Secretary/Treasurer

☐ Sid Gale

Write-Ins:

Office _____

Candidate: _____

Office _____

Candidate: _____

Volunteer Positions:

Newsletter Editor - Bob Newhouse

Love Token Sales - Steve Tompkins

Please send completed ballot to:

Sid Gale

P.O. Box 970

Madeville, LA 70470

or email:

sidgale@charter.net

or call:

985-626-3867

Don't forget: MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

FUN meeting Jan. 13-15, 2005

Greater Ft. Lauderdale/Broward Co. Convention Center,
1950 Eisenhower Blvd.

Ft. Lauderdale, FL

LOVE TOKEN SOCIETY meeting
on January 14th at 3 p.m.

Membership Dues

Love Token Society Membership Dues:

Your Love Token Society dues for 2005 are due on January 1, 2005. Dues are \$12.50 per calendar year. If you wish to pay for more than one year, you may do so at this time as well.

To continue receiving the "Love Letter," just clip the form below and mail it as soon as possible with your cash, check or money order to:

Sid Gale


P.O. Box 970

Mandeville, LA

70470

985-626-3867

email: sidgale@charter.net

 **NOTE:** If you are paying by check and your address information is current, there is no need to complete this form. Only fill in the following form if there are changes or corrections for your address labels.

Love Token Society Membership

Sid Gale, P.O. Box 970, Mandeville, LA 70470

Member # _____ Do you want a Directory Yes ____ No ____

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

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Database Entry Date: _____

Comments: _____

Love

Love Token Society Newsletter

Letter

Dr. Robert C. Newhouse
5840 Tuttle Cove Rd.
Manhattan, KS 66503



WANTED:

LOVE TOKENS Dimes on dimes minted with these dates:

1838 no stars, 1844, 1846, 1847, 1860 star on obverse, 1866, 1909, 1915 and 1916.

Gold: USA \$10.00 Indian and a St. Gaudens \$20.00.

I am seeking the above love tokens to complete sets. If you have any of these available for sale or trade I would appreciate it if you would contact me.

Sid Gale

P.O. Box 970

Mandeville, LA 70470

sidgale@charter.net

www.galemetalart.com

*Thank you,
Sid Gale*